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THE TIMES

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Saddam 'cannot trifle with world'

Allies prepare to attack Iraqi missile sites

By IAN BRODIE,
MICHAEL THEODOULOU
AND JAMES BONE

THE United States and its allies, saying that President Saddam Hussein "cannot trifle with the world", were moving last night towards an attack on two Iraqi missile sites after a United Nations inspection team was prevented from sealing them off.

"We are engaged in discussions with others who are a party to this whole matter," Vice-President Al Gore said on NBC television's *Meet the Press*. British officials in Washington confirmed that an urgent evaluation of Saddam's latest display of brinkmanship was under way.

The UN Security Council is expected to call today for the destruction of two missile-testing sites near Baghdad, a

■ Iraq may have miscalculated by defying the UN over controversial missile sites. The US wants UN approval for a military strike.

move that could trigger a new attack. The prospect of punitive American-led strikes loomed after the team of UN weapons inspectors left the country abruptly.

"I was not allowed to do what I went in for and that is why I came out of Iraq immediately," Mark Silver, the American leader of the three-man team, said on arrival in Bahrain. The inspectors spent an hour at each site yesterday morning before pulling out. It was the second time in a week that the team left with its mission blocked.

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, said on Friday that if Iraq prevented the sealing, he expected that the UN would tell Baghdad to destroy the two test sites. If Iraq remained defiant, another military strike was "entirely possible".

Yesterday Muhammad Said Kazem al-Sahhaf, the foreign minister, wrote to the security council urging it to "stop a new military aggression". However, the Iraqi general in charge of dealing with UN inspectors said that Iraq would defy any order to close the missile sites and promised that the country would take all necessary measures to defend itself. General Amer Rasheed said such an order would be a "dangerous precedent" leading to demands for the closure of any factory. "We as a nation, we take all necessary measures to protect our people, our land and society," he said.

In New York, Rolf Ekroos, head of the UN special mission charged with eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, was holding urgent consultations last night with Sir David Hannay, of Britain, the present chairman of the security council. It was not clear whether the council would give Iraq an ultimatum before acting. The US has warships in the Gulf and Red Sea that unleashed 23 Tomahawk cruise missiles on Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad on June 27.

Iraq appeared surprised by the UN team's abrupt departure. "The team rejected the Iraqi offer and made a dramatic move by leaving Iraq without justification," the Iraqi culture and information ministry said in a statement. Iraq offered to transfer equipment to a different site

where UN inspectors could monitor it and ensure that it was not being used. The inspectors arrived in Baghdad on Saturday charged with sealing off the two missile test sites 45 miles south of the capital as a temporary measure until Iraq agreed to the installation of surveillance cameras.

The dispute coincides with a report that Iraqi troops opened fire with handguns and automatic rifles across Saudi Arabia's border twice this month. The incidents on July 1 and 4 were the first reported since the Gulf war. The Saudi foreign ministry described them as acts of provocation and said it had urged the security council to take whatever measures were necessary to stop "these Iraqi provocative provocations and commit the Iraq regime to respect the security council resolutions".

The two missile sites at the centre of the dispute were once used to test long-range Scud missiles that Iraq fired during the Gulf war. In the wake of America's cruise missile attack on the Iraqi intelligence headquarters two weeks ago, the newspaper *al-Jumhuriyah* chided the government for allowing UN inspectors to destroy its stockpiles of Scud missiles. "Had we possessed our missiles, the weak and indecisive Clinton would not have dared to hit our cities," the newspaper said.

The newspaper added that if Iraq still had Scud missiles, it would have retaliated for the latest US strike with "sweeping force and effectiveness on the centres of aggression in Riyadh, Kuwait and Tel Aviv". UN officials suspect that Iraq may have hidden up to 100 Scud missiles; American experts believe that figure could be twice as high.

Mr Gore said that Saddam could be asked to destroy the missile sites if he would not allow them to be inspected. If he refused to do so, the security council could consider a range of options, "one of which could include the use of force against those facilities". Mr Gore added: "Saddam should understand that he cannot trifle with the world community."

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Leading article, page 15



Putting the boot in: Damon Hill kicks his car in anger after being forced out of the British grand prix at Silverstone by a burning engine

Back reforms or lose election, says Smith

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith will warn his critics today that they are risking a fifth electoral defeat for the Labour party if they continue to block his one member, one vote reforms.

As the civil war within his party reached a new level of ferocity, Mr Smith issued an "I will not be moved" message to trade unionists, MPs and constituency activists opposing his plans to wrest power over the selection of Labour candidates and the leadership from union bosses.

He argues in the *Labour Party News* today that the reforms must be approved at this autumn's party conference. "I do not believe we can put off selecting our candidates for yet another year when the government is in deep trouble and the possibility of a general election cannot be ruled out."

Mr Smith adds that, if Labour is to convince voters of its commitment to an ambitious programme to reform Britain's constitution, it must first choose a democratic system of selecting candidates.

However, in a BBC interview yesterday, Mr Smith refused to stake his leadership on winning approval for the reforms. While maintaining his stance on the candidates' selection system, he took a more conciliatory approach to giving union members a con-

tinuing role in electing the party leader and deputy leader.

His warning of the electoral threat to the party came as John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, attacked the reforms, saying: "Loyalty has its limits". Speaking on BBC TV's *Breakfast with Frost*, Mr Ed-



Edmonds has irritated the Labour leader

monds added: "We cannot for the sake of loyalty just tear up the democratic rights of trade union members." The claims that Mr Smith's one member one vote plans would increase democracy were "fraudulent", he said.

Mr Smith's aides replied that the Labour leader was

becoming "more than a little irritated" by Mr Edmonds, since he had backed Mr Smith in the leadership contest a year ago when he campaigned for the reforms. "John Edmonds has changed his stance, not John Smith," one commented.

A survey of constituency activists disclosed that only around 50 per cent favour Mr Smith's reforms. He is known to be disappointed that, at the end of the consultation period, his grassroots supporters are split over the reforms. Labour's union links committee of union leaders and MPs meets on Wednesday to discuss recommendations to the ruling executive.

On present calculations, Mr Smith looks likely to push through the changes by one vote at the July 19 meeting of the party's executive. The votes appear to be stacked against him at the party conference, although aides talk optimistically of the "political chemistry" which will be at work in the run-up to the conference when supporters have absorbed the details of his proposals.

Mr Smith conceded a willingness to give unionists a continued role in the election of the party leadership. Interviewed by BBC TV's *On the Record*, the Labour leader

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Burning car frustrates Hill's burning ambition

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

DAMON Hill's attempt to win the British grand prix, a victory that always eluded his father Graham, ended in disappointment at Silverstone yesterday. His engine broke down when he was in the lead with only 17 laps left.

Alain Prost, Hill's teammate in a Williams Renault, went on to win his 50th Formula One grand prix and extend his lead in the world championship.

Hill went ahead from the start but on the 42nd lap

smoke and then flames began pouring from the engine and Hill was forced to stop. He slammed his gloves against his helmet, saying later: "It is totally infuriating. I felt I did everything right only to be denied by something beyond my control."

Prost, who has now won the British grand prix three times in the last five years, said that he thought Hill deserved to win.

Race report, page 19



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Senior judges given court ruling to take off their wigs

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR judges are to experiment with bareheaded justice. Despite an overwhelming verdict from the majority of the legal profession and the public that wigs should stay, senior judges are to shed their 18th-century horsehair for a short period, probably in the autumn.

The experiment, which will affect only judges in the Court of Appeal and the commercial court, comes after a thorough consultation about court dress carried out last year by Lord Taylor of Gossforth, the Lord Chief Justice, and Lord MacKay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor.

Lord Taylor made no secret of his view, soon after taking office in April 1992, that the shedding of wigs would at a

stroke remove much of the public misunderstanding about the judiciary. "The wig," he said, "makes us look slightly ridiculous. It's a legacy from the 18th century, and people might assume that anyone wearing one of them is likely to be thinking in an 18th-century way."

After nearly a year of debate and widespread consultation, however, the consensus among more than 500 people and organisations earlier this year was that wigs should continue to be worn. There was particular support - including that from many defendants who thought a wig conferred authority - for barristers to go on wearing wigs in the criminal courts. The legal profession itself

mostly came out in favour of retaining wigs for the crown courts. But in the vanguard of the movement for reform were a number of barristers and judges in the commercial court, who are working in a more international atmosphere and whose clients are accustomed to wigless lawyers and judges.

The findings of the consultation exercise were expected about Easter but have been delayed, possibly while some way forward was sought among judges. The experiment by Court of Appeal and commercial judges will help to achieve that, and the view among them is that, far from being likely to prompt an outcry, the move will hardly be noticed.

After 75 voting years women shun politics

By JONATHAN FRYNN

DESPITE 75 years of women's suffrage, three out of four women remain uninvolved in political activities, according to a MORI poll at the start of what has been designated "women into politics week".

Among women aged between 18 and 24 the figure of those uninterested rises to 82 per cent. Of those, more than four out of ten young women polled by MORI claimed that they are "just not interested in politics" and a quarter say that they find political meetings boring.

The figures contrast sharply with the political interest of the older age groups. Only 19 per cent of the 65-plus category say they have no interest in politics and a mere 7 per cent say they are bored by political meetings. The findings of the

poll suggest that male domination of British politics may be self-perpetuating, with the overwhelmingly masculine atmosphere of parliament deterring young women from political activism.

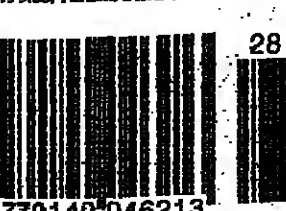
It will dismay campaigning organisations such as the 300 Group, which wants at least 300 women MPs at Westminster, compared with the present tally of 59 in a House of 651.

Of the 24 per cent of all women who do involve themselves in political affairs the most common participation is communicating views to a councillor or MP. One in seven of women polled said

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Tory party agents face redundancy as cash flow dries up

By Andrew Pierce

THE Tory party organisation is in danger of collapsing in key marginal seats with many constituency associations on the brink of bankruptcy.

A huge drop in donations and falling membership, at least partly caused by disillusionment with John Major's leadership, has led to the crisis in which full-time party agents are being laid off by local associations to try to stave off financial ruin. Up to 35 agents have been made redundant or put on short-time working since last year's election. In the West Midlands, where four agents have gone in the past few months, the agents have convened an emergency meeting in the Wyre Forest constituency for tomorrow.

Much of the anger is directed at Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman. One agent, who works for a government minister, says: "Activists, who have traditionally been blind loyal, are talking politics for the first time. Norman Lamont went after Newbury. If we lose [the by-election] on July 29, Christchurch could be Fowler's Newbury."

Yesterday agents confirmed that more than 20 associations in England have had talks with an independent political consultancy. Parliamentary Liaison Services. The company is run by Mark Fulbrook, a former head of campaigning at Conservative Central Office and can provide assistance for council elections and by-elections. It will offer expertise to local associations on a commercial basis.

Morale has not been helped by press reports that senior Tories are scathing about the alleged inadequacies of local organisation. Another agent said: "It was Central Office which tore the heart out of the organisation this year when it closed half the regional offices."

The government's mistakes and the failings of Central Office, which is run by one of the most unpopular party chairmen I can recall, have done the damage. It's no wonder we are seeking expertise elsewhere.

Tory MPs are most alarmed over the job losses among party agents, the paid officials who run associations, organise fund-raising and the local and parliamentary election campaigns. Last week it was reported in *The Times* that Stephen Dorrell, the financial secretary to the treasury, might have to sack his agent to try to reduce a projected £20,000 deficit in his Loughborough association.

Agents who retire are not being replaced and in key marginals such as Wallasey, where Lynda Chalker lost her seat to Angela Eagle for Labour last year, the agent left three weeks ago. The agent has been made redundant at Stockport, which Anne Coffey of Labour captured by 1,400 votes from Tony Pavey, John Major's former parliamentary private secretary.

Other marginals such as Warwickshire North, where Francis Maude was defeated by Labour's Michael O'Brien, have lost their agents. Chester, with a Tory majority of 1,100, has recently made its agent redundant. Southampton Itchen, which Labour's John Denham won from Christopher Chope, and Elmet with a 3,200 Tory majority, have laid off their agents.

In Stratford-on-Avon and Bearsden, a Labour marginal, former seat of Sir Michael Hirst, the Scottish party chairman, they have thrown in the towel already by shutting down the constituency parties," he said. Mr Smith complained that, although he received 71 per

Battle over Labour reform



Pressing on: Mr Smith yesterday while recording his interview with the BBC

Smith warns union critics

Continued from page 1
cent of the electoral college votes in the leadership contest, some union leaders had not consulted their members. "There would be a case for individual trade unionists taking part in the election of the leader and the deputy leader of the Labour party, provided we can get certain principles established, and that is that we get an end to block voting

... and also that I know that the people taking part in that are Labour supporters." He also insisted that he has no intention of breaking the trade unions' traditional links with the Labour party. "I do not want to sever links between the trade unions and the Labour party. I'm proud of them. Indeed, I want to strengthen them," he said.

Thatcher to renew Maastricht assault

Lady Thatcher made her intention of speaking in the forthcoming Lords debate on a Maastricht referendum clear last night as the government signalled its concern over the vote by ordering its first three-line whip on Tory peers in almost two years. Tory whips insist they remain confident on vote, due in a fortnight, but concede that they cannot guarantee the outcome once peers hear the case put forward by Baroness Thatcher.

Lady Thatcher said yesterday she would be urging peers to back a referendum. She admitted that since she made her outspoken attack on the treaty in the second reading debate, she had not spoken during the Maastricht debate in the Lords because she did not wish to embarrass John Major. "I never, never do that," she said. "If the occasion arises, I should like to speak in the referendum debate. It will not be an attack on the prime minister. It will be a furtherance of what I have believed in for a very long time."

Peter Riddell, page 14, leading article, page 15

Orange day fires lit

Violence erupted before the start today of the marching season in Belfast as seven petrol bombs were thrown at policemen patrolling a Protestant estate on foot in Bangor, co. Down and a Roman Catholic school in Londonderry was set alight, causing £2,000 damage. Organisers expect 80,000 people to march today in 18 towns across the province as the Orangemen celebrate the 303rd anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne when the Protestant King William of Orange defeated the Catholic King James in 1690.

Children hurt at show

Dozens of children were injured when two runaway horses pulling a carriage bolted through a parade of bands and choirs at a village parade. Eight girls were taken to hospital after the horses reared and fled through the 200-strong crowd during a procession at the Stithians agricultural show in Cornwall on Saturday.

Adoption law changes

Big changes in adoption and fostering law are heralded in a government white paper due out this month. The assumption that couples aged 40 are too old to adopt will go, and a child of 12 will have more say on whether it is adopted by foster parents or returned to its natural parents. The white paper will also discuss the suggestion that couples who adopt a child from this country could pay up to £1,500. John Bowis, under secretary of state for health, says the object is to bring 20-year-old laws up to date.

Police hire Wembley

The Police Federation has hired the Wembley Arena, which can hold 12,000 people, for a national protest meeting on July 20 as part of its campaign to challenge government plans for police reform. The federation, which represents rank and file officers, has already spent more than £200,000 on advertisements and political lobbying.

The Sun cuts price

The Sun newspaper, which sells 3.5 million a day, has signalled the start of a tabloid circulation battle by cutting its price by 5p to 20p. Kelvin MacKenzie, editor, said he was prepared to reduce the price as low as 15p. Brian Hitchen, *The Daily Star* editor, dismissed the move as a "desperate measure from desperate men".

Murder suspect sought

Scotland Yard yesterday issued an enhanced photographic image, below, of a suspect police want to interview over the serial killing of five homosexuals in London. The man was picked out by security cameras at Charing Cross station at 10.32pm on June 12. He is pictured with Emanuel Spiteri, 42, who was later found strangled in his flat.



Crossword puzzlers reach national final

By John Grant, Crossword Editor

TEN people qualified for the national final of *The Times* Knockando Crossword Championship in the two London finals at the Hilton Hotel, over the weekend.

The London B final was won yesterday by Michael Trollope, 46, a chemical engineer from Worthing, West Sussex, and a previous winner. He completed the four puzzles in an average of ten minutes each. Brian Sylvester, 60, a stamp dealer from Maidenhead, Berkshire, was second with a time of 13 and a quarter minutes.

Roy Dean, 66, a retired diplomat from Bromley, southeast London, was third; Gordon Hobbs, 44, a solicitor from Woodford Green, north-east London, fourth; and Anne Bradford, 62, a part-time school secretary and lexicographer from New Barnet, north London, was fifth.

The London A final on Saturday was won by Henry Blanco White from Hampstead, north London, a 36-year-old patent agent. He is a former national finalist and completed the four puzzles in an average of 11 and a quarter minutes each. Second was David Vine, 51, a market research consultant and antiquarian bookseller from Wanstead, east London, who took 15 minutes per puzzle. Third was Michael Jones, 63, from St Leonards, East Sussex. Richard Jacks, 43, from High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, was fourth. Maureen MacGibbon, from Daventry, Northamptonshire, beat Martin Walters, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, for fifth by completing a tie-break puzzle in six minutes.

Unlike any other single malt whisky, Knockando is bottled not at a pre-determined age, but only when taste confirms that its perfect, subtly complex balance has been achieved. This can be anything between twelve and fifteen years. And that's why we felt that it was the perfect partner for *The Times* Crossword. Because it's impossible to say how long it's going to take.

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Most women reject interest in politics

Continued from page 1
she had contacted a political representative within the past three years but among women from the wealthier middle class professional groups, the figure rises to 29 per cent.

Women in the south of England are more politically active than those from the Midlands or the north. One in 20 women has attended a political meeting in the past three years and the same proportion has taken part in a march or a demonstration.

The results of the poll make dispiriting reading for jaded observers of the massed ranks of middle-aged men who occupy most of the bench space at the Commons.

All the main political parties are attempting to increase their female representation at the Commons with Labour moving increasingly towards a position of positive discrimination. Women Labour MPs want larger quotas in the shadow cabinet and an equal share of seats where Labour

MPs are retiring and target seats. Sexism, lack of childcare facilities and fears over their personal safety were the main difficulties blocking women's skills training, a survey by the Industrial Society published today shows.

More than half the 145 women questioned said they suffered sexist or discriminatory language during training events and one in 10 complained of being harassed. Four out of five managers said their firms had equal opportunities policies — but these seem "paper commitments".

The study was conducted by MORI among a representative quota sample of 918 women aged 18 and over. Interviews were conducted face to face, in home, across 147 constituency sampling points throughout Great Britain, June 24 to 28. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population.

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Major pushes Brittan for top EC post

Continued from page 1
challenged by Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Tory right in the House of Commons on the social chapter 48 hours before the Christchurch by-election. While Sir Leon is his first choice the prime minister, however, would be unlikely to stand in the way of Ruud Lubbers, the Dutch prime minister, currently one of the main front runners for the post.

In Brussels Sir Leon is thought to have little or no chance of getting the job when it becomes vacant at the end of next year, or earlier if M Delors decides to go before his term of office expires. France would almost certainly block him and it is felt that Sir Leon will be more strongly placed to take over in a few years' time, possibly as the next president-bidder.

Mr Major is understood to regard him as the best candidate for the job and believes that he would appeal to governments who would prefer to

see a non-federalist pro-European in charge of the Brussels bureaucracy. Mr Major's support for Sir Leon, and his apparent readiness to go along with Mr Lubbers, will be seen as part of the public and private horse-trading preceding over a number of key EC decisions, including the site and chairmanship of the European Monetary Institute, the forerunner of the central bank.

The prime minister's primary objective appears to be to stop the emergence of another federalist such as M Delors. He believes that after the turmoil of recent years, culminating in the near-collapse of the EC caused by the Maastricht process, Europe needs a period of calm as it takes stock of the changes. The appointment of a federalist president would also conflict with Mr Major's vision of an enlarged, less centralised EC.

William Rees-Mogg, page 14
Leading article, page 15

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Custom to cross bootle

Wife of raped at campsite

Russian

Customs loses £5m to cross-Channel bootleg gangs

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

SYNDICATES of cross-Channel bootleggers, formed to exploit the abolition of European fiscal frontiers on January 1, may have boosted excise duty evasion to more than £5 million so far this year.

Customs officials, forced to abandon controls at sea and airports in favour of inland checks on illegally imported alcohol and tobacco, believe that up to half-a-dozen organised gangs of smugglers are now cashing in.

The biggest resale profits are made on tobacco that might cost £6.66 for a 50 gram pack in Britain but only £1.16 in France. Of £580,000 in revenue evasion detected by Customs officers investigating 442 cases by the end of May, nearly £370,000 is accounted for by hand-rolling tobacco.

That far exceeds detected excise evasion on beer, the next most popular contraband, worth £98,000 in lost revenue in the first five months this year, wine (£27,000), spirits (£30,000), and cigarettes (£33,000).

The true sum that Customs has been cheated of since the advent of the single European market is thought to be ten times the known £580,000 total.

Most cases — which are concentrated in the South East — have involved owners or managers of wine bars, off-licenses, pubs and restaurants importing vast quantities of tax-free and duty-free alcohol and cigarettes as personal allowances and selling them on.

Under the new rules, travel-

■ The abolition of EC customs barriers has created a £5 million trade for organised gangs of cross-Channel bootleggers

lers are entitled to bring back 90 litres of wine, 110 litres (194 pints) of beer, 10 litre bottles of spirits, 30 litres of fortified wine, 800 cigarettes and 200 cigars for personal consumption.

According to Customs, a case of 24 bottles of Stella Artois lager, which would cost £21.36 in Britain, can be bought for £5.32 in France or £6.39 in Belgium, through differences in product costs, duty and VAT. Even with a hefty discount to customers, big profits can be made by the bootleggers.

A bottle of Côte du Rhône, costing £3.59 in Britain, can be bought for as little as £1.02 in France while a bottle of whisky costing £11.19 in Britain sells for £8.95 in France.

In addition to small-time opportunists selling personal allowances at their own premises and others running vanloads across the Channel on their behalf, up to six syndicates of professional smugglers are being investigated.

Last month, after a ten-week operation, investigators seized 11 tonnes of allegedly illegally imported beer with a revenue value of £50,000. Following the seizure, the biggest since January 1, three men have been charged with evasion of duty and await committal for trial.

In another case, 12 men

from South Wales have been charged. In a third case a family of five was arrested with five associates last month after allegedly making four to five trips a week to France since the relaxation of controls. Revenue evasion totalled over £35,000; officers seized spirits, beer, and hand-rolling tobacco.

Up to the end of May, 67 vehicles have been seized and 760 challenged. Twenty-four people have been charged over evasion worth £142,000 and another 243 are proceeding to prosecution or out-of-court fines on evasion totalling £49,000; another 175 cases worth £18,000 have been dealt with simply through seizure.

Most arrests have been made by the 150 members of the new corps of plain-clothes excise verification officers. Officers concentrate on checking invoices, tax and VAT returns. That is because arrests cannot be made until Customs has evidence that consignments imported within limits of personal consumption are offered for resale.

Unusual brand labels on wines, beers and spirits and the absence of health warnings on cigarette packets and hand-rolling tobacco (for warnings in a foreign language) excite their curiosity.

Customs is pressing for the revocation of alcohol licences for establishments caught selling on goods that no duty has been paid. Some cheap alcohol and tobacco have also been found on offer at car boot sales and on market stalls.

Mark Thomson, a Customs spokesman, said: "People selling stuff off at unlikely venues stand out like a sore thumb."

"The average revenue evasion is running at about £1,000 per seizure. It's been fairly small-scale. But we are starting to get indications of organised syndicates of bootleggers. January 1 was a new opportunity for criminals and we're only now getting an intelligence base together from scratch to combat them."



Paper profits: Maria Norton, left, and Karen Solly at their workshop in Brixton. They are on target for a first-year turnover of £18,000

Princely sum helps business to blossom

By ALAN HAMILTON

WHILE politicians score the ground for green shoots of economic recovery, one small business has burst into full bloom. The flowers may be only paper, but they have blossomed with the help of that enthusiastic organic gardener, the Prince of Wales.

Maria Norton, 28, and Karen Solly, 22, from Brixton, south London, launched their business making giant

paper flowers last March, and are on target for a first year's turnover of £18,000. They say they could not have done it without loans and grants of £3,250 from the Prince's Youth Business Trust, which helps young entrepreneurs who have failed to secure funding from high street banks.

Today, at a giftware trade exhibition in Birmingham, the prince will meet the businesswomen, and other ventures whose firms owe their

existence to the trust. They plan to shower their patron with gifts of their own making, including a tiepin of Welsh silver, an illustrated map of the Duchy of Cornwall, cufflinks and a painting of Windsor Castle.

The prince launched the trust after visiting Liverpool in 1981 to see the aftermath of the Toxteth riots, and learning that young people with good business ideas but no experience faced difficulty borrowing capital

from traditional sources. The trust has distributed more than £30 million in grants and loans to 18,000 people, raised through donations from big business and government grants.

The fund's proudest boast is that, in an independent survey for the employment department last year, 66 per cent of trust clients were still trading after three years, a much higher figure than for new businesses funded from other sources.

Accountant stabbed to death at stag party

By JOHN VINCENT

A MURDER hunt was under way last night after an accountant was stabbed to death while celebrating his approaching wedding.

Cormack Mahon, 36, and six friends had left the Royal Mail pub in Islington, north London at 9.45pm on Saturday night when he was stabbed in the back with a long-bladed knife which penetrated his chest.

Police described his attacker as white, thin, 5ft 10in tall with long wavy hair and wearing a black leather jacket.

Detectives believe that a gang had followed the wedding party along Upper Street and had waited outside the Royal Mail. There was a fight during which Mr Mahon was stabbed. He died shortly after arriving at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Mr Mahon, originally from Dublin, was living in Highbury, north London and was to have been married later this month.

His Scottish fiancée said last night: "Cormack was not the sort to get involved in fights. I loved him because he was gentle and honest, not because he was a macho man. He was never, ever, one to start trouble."

Firefighters from a nearby station tried to stem the flow of blood with clingfilm until an ambulance arrived.

Mabel Stutter, landlady of the Royal Mail, said: "The man getting married and his friends were in high spirits and quite noisy but no trouble. They had just one drink around 9.30 and then went off to another pub. Immediately afterwards a couple of people banged on our door, shouting frantically to call the emergency services. It was horrifying."

African coolness for caring princess

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE average Zimbabwean in the street did not seem to notice much that the Princess of Wales was in town yesterday, bestowing her customary glow of comfort and hope on some of that country's large number of leprosy and Aids sufferers.

On the second day of her first visit to southern Africa, the princess was visiting the Seko South Clinic, 12 miles

from Harare. The crowd of mid-morning drinkers across the road on the verandah of the Bazooka Co-operative supermarket were not moved to join the column of Red Cross volunteers and local women who knelt in the dust as the princess strolled by. They just carried on drinking.

The low-key nature of her visit is in sharp contrast to the hearty welcome accorded her

mother-in-law at the Commonwealth summit in Harare, the capital, in 1991, and, equally, to her estranged husband who visited in 1980.

Among those few Zimbabweans fully conversant with the royal separation, the princess would almost certainly elicit censure. In such a fiercely male-dominated African society, a wife who leaves her husband — no matter the

reason — is regarded as a wrongdoer.

The princess, who is visiting health projects as a patron of the British Red Cross Society, was brought to the verge of tears as she toured the leprosy unit. She put her arms round an elderly man with only stumps for fingers, and made a point of touching all the other 20 leprosy sufferers she met.

Wife of 40 raped at campsite

By JENNY KNIGHT

DETECTIVES questioned campers and caravanners in the New Forest yesterday after a 40-year-old married woman was raped in daylight on a busy campsite.

The attack, which had similarities with the rape of a German tourist in the same area in 1984, coincided with the unveiling by 15 police forces of a computerised rape database to help to track down serial rapists.

In Friday's incident, the victim had gone for a stroll with her dogs around the Roundhills Enclosure campsite near Brockenhurst, Hampshire, shortly after arriving for a caravan holiday with her husband. As she approached a quiet area of the campsite, she was knocked to the ground by a tall, muscular black man in his late twenties or early thirties. He had been seen loitering in a red or maroon estate car and is believed to have returned briefly after the attack.

The new rape database will log details of 1,000 rapes and should help to predict an attacker's next move, police said at the launch of the system.

Veterans castigate BBC management

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Birt, the BBC director-general, will this week defend the corporation against an attack on its policies from two distinguished former employees, amid growing internal criticism of its poor ratings and Mr Birt's leadership.

Mark Tully, the BBC's veteran India correspondent, will accuse Mr Birt of turning the corporation into a secretive monolith with poor ratings for its programmes and a demoralised, fearful staff. According to a leaked copy of a speech to be delivered at the Radio Academy's annual festival in Birmingham tomorrow, Mr Tully will say that the BBC has set "a high premium on sycophancy and virtually rules out healthy criticism of the management."

Some BBC staff describe Mr Birt's style of management as "Stalinist". "I will not go that far... but many of the staff feel there is some sort of Big Brother watching them," Mr Tully will say.

In a separate attack, Bill Cotton, the former head of BBC television, has accused the BBC of making a "colossal mistake" by placing too much emphasis on news and current affairs, at the expense

of light entertainment. Mr Birt declined to comment on the dual onslaught yesterday.

He is expected to counter the criticisms in his own speech to the academy on Wednesday, by arguing that they are being led by the BBC old guard who are insufficiently aware of the need for change in a new world of broadcasting.

The latest row coincides with television viewing figures that show BBC's audience share at an eight-year low at the end of June, falling below 30 per cent, with only one new BBC sitcom in the top 75 programmes.

Mr Tully says he decided to speak out after reading a letter to *The Times* from six leading BBC journalists accusing Mr Birt's critics of being too cowardly to give their names. Martin Lewis, the BBC newscaster and one of the signatories to the letter, said: "The idea that the BBC is crushing dissent under a jackboot is... being put about by people who may be the old guard. Changes have to take place if the BBC is going to be linked into the shape it needs to be in for the renewal of its charter in 1996."

Russians disagree over tsar's reburial

By ALAN HAMILTON AND ANNE McLELLY

A DECISION on the future of the mortal remains of Tsar Nicholas II has been delayed amid disagreement between members of the Romanov family and Boris Yeltsin's government over a reburial site.

Reports from Moscow at the weekend suggested that the bones of the Russian imperial family, which British scientists announced last week they had positively identified by DNA tests, would be reinterred in St Petersburg next Saturday, with full Russian Orthodox religious rites.

Surviving members of the Romanov family favour their return to Ekaterinburg as a memorial to all those

killed by the Communists. The remains are still in Britain.

Buckingham Palace yesterday dismissed suggestions that the Queen, a distant cousin of the tsar, was preparing to fly to the old imperial capital to attend a reinterment ceremony. Neither information about such an event nor an invitation had been received, the palace said.

The murder of the tsar and most of his family at Ekaterinburg by Bolsheviks in 1918 is one reason among many why the Queen never paid a state visit to the former Soviet Union. Now, however, two formal invitations, one from Mikhail

Gorbachev in 1989 and another more recently from Boris Yeltsin, lie on her desk, accepted in principle but with dates not even at the discussion stage.

Palace sources believe any future state visit might well include some form of graveside ceremony. What is thought more likely is that another member of her family, possibly the Duke of Edinburgh whose grandmother was the tsarina's sister and who provided a blood sample for the DNA tests, might attend a reinterment.

The Russian media, which is largely sceptical of any idea that a monarchy should be restored, has been slow to

respond to the British findings. Pro-Yeltsin democrats attached to the republican ideal fear that the results could spark a nationalist-led restoration campaign, while the far right is divided over the merits of sundry claimants to the title.

Aleksandr Nvortov, the ultra-right television commentator, has been leading calls to establish a new dynasty based on the 1613 precedent whereby the crown was bestowed on the Romanovs by a special assembly after a "time of troubles". He and Dimitri Vasilyev, the head of the neo-Fascist Pamyat movement, appear to consider themselves as candidates.

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1982

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wing-footed

messenger to the gods

Not really headline news

big hit enough



Mercury.

Carey tells dissidents to accept women



Carey: Women will be lawfully ordained

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, yesterday called on opponents of women priests to face reality.

Dr Carey said: "People have got to realise that the doctrine of the Church of England... will be that women will be canonically and lawfully ordained." Speaking in an interview with *The Times*, at the General Synod of the Church of England, Dr Carey denied there had been any change in doctrine. He condemned parishes which withhold their "quotas", the payments to their dioceses which go towards clergy salaries. Such parishes were behaving in an "un-Catholic" way and were damaging the church, he said.

"They perhaps believe the church is doing a wrong thing. I can understand that. I sympathise with them. But when they withhold quotas they are damaging poor churches. They are damaging the Church of England as a body."

He added: "It is highly distressing

■ The Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking to *The Times*, insists that parishes who oppose women's ordination must continue to pay their dues

for leaders and ordinary church members to know that the rich church down the road is actually undermining the ministry of the church by such an action."

Dr Carey's comments came the day before the ecclesiastical committee of Parliament meets to vote on the measure to ordain women priests, passed by the synod last November. The committee is expected to vote the measure "expedient", leading to a debate in both houses this autumn.

The measure will then go forward for royal assent, and must be promulgated by the synod before women can be ordained. An act of synod, to be debated tomorrow in York, recommends a system of episcopal visitors, known at parish level as "flying bishops", to provide pastoral care for opponents. However, the act, in which

the church bends over backwards to accommodate opponents, is likely to be criticised by some traditionalists, who feel it does not go far enough, and by women, who believe it goes too far.

Dr Carey said the arrangements would enable opponents to stay in the church if they possibly could. He insisted: "We are not pushing anybody out", and urged Anglo-Catholics and Evangelicals who have opposed the ordination of women to work with them and support their ministry.

Criticism of the decision to ordain women priests has centred on the issue of whether the Church of England can unilaterally change what some believe to be a fundamental doctrine of the Universal Catholic Church, and still consider itself part of that church.

Dr Carey said: "I don't say there is a change of doctrine. I believe that

theologically, women and men share in the same humanity. But what is canonically different is that women will be ordained."

Dr David Hope, the traditionalist Bishop of London, who will not personally ordain women priests but has drawn up the "London plan", under which an area bishop will carry out the ordinations of women, supported the archbishop. He said: "One of the facts of the London plan is that all involved recognise that women will be canonically ordained."

The archbishop was also supported by the Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Rev Richard Harries, who said the church had made a remarkable effort to include dissidents. "For the first time in the whole history of religious controversy, a real attempt has been made to keep a continuing place for the minority and I think the church ought to be given some credit."

Churches in the City of London now cost 60 per cent more to insure, an extra £106,000 a year, after recent IRA bombings, Dr Hope told the conference.

Arms enquiry shows signs of losing way

By MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THERE are growing fears that Lord Justice Scott's judicial enquiry into government complicity in arms-related exports to Iraq has lost its way in Whitehall's bureaucratic undergrowth.

Such suspicions have been gaining momentum among the more sceptical Scott-watchers, fuelled by persistent rumours of Whitehall's destruction of documents, and the media's growing frustration over its inability to see more than a fragment of the evidence collected by the enquiry team.

Launching the public hearings in May, Lord Justice Scott announced his intention of holding in public as much as possible of the witness testimony. But for those expecting a series of damaging revelations, the hearings have been — with one or two exceptions — a disappointment.

Most of the enquiry's work has been conducted behind closed doors. Witnesses are

invited to submit written statements, responding to questions raised by the enquiry team. Some are called to give evidence in public, but their written statements remain confidential. Enquiry officials refuse even to disclose how many witnesses have been called to give evidence in camera — never mind who they are.

Lord Justice Scott's staff have been at pains to emphasise that the judge will get to the bottom of the arms-to-Iraq affair. Whitehall's destruction of documents will not stop the enquiry, which will cost the taxpayer about £500,000, from exposing the extent to which ministers and civil servants conspired to breach the government's arms export guidelines, officials say.

Criticism has also been made about the genteel manner in which the public hearings have been conducted. Lord Justice Scott and Presley Baxendale QC, counsel to the enquiry, often seem preoccupied with the definition of words, while failing to follow up obvious lines of questioning.

There is little doubt that this criticism has found its target. During questioning last week of Peter Vereker, the Foreign Office official in charge of arms control and disarmament policy, Lord Justice Scott came the closest yet to losing his temper over a civil servant's refusal to provide a straight answer.

Three months of public hearings have provided a rare insight into the extent to which civil servants mould and shape the options presented to ministers on important policy issues. The end result could be that it will be the officials, rather than ministers, who end up shouldering much of the blame.

Most of the enquiry's star witnesses, including John Major, Baroness Thatcher and Alan Clark, the former trade minister, are not expected to give evidence until after the August break. The hearings resume on Thursday with testimony from Mark Hinson, a former Foreign Office official.

Hunt for lost couple goes on

As Turkish troops continued to search for a British engineer and his cousin, the Foreign Office said it regarded reports that they had been kidnapped by Kurdish rebels as "speculation".

David Rowbottom, 27, and Tania Miller, 28, were last seen a week ago when they went to visit a lake in a remote part of eastern Turkey.

Mr Rowbottom's brother Andrew, 31, said their family at Stockport, Greater Manchester, believed they would have been found had there been an accident. A kidnap or abduction seemed more probable.

Air memorial

The Queen Mother unveiled a memorial at Capel-le-Ferne, Kent, to airmen who flew in the Battle of Britain. The carved figure of a pilot stands on a base which bears the names of 66 squadrons.

Heart progress

Hal Brodhurst, aged six months, the world's first heart and bone marrow transplant patient, is making "slow but steady progress" at Hatfield Hospital, west London.

Mighty mishap

A Central TV team dropped a camera while filming the 3.15-p.m. 1909 Blitz organ in the Albert Hall, Nottingham, after its £250,000 refurbishment. The organist was hurt by falling pipes.

Penny policy

Impressed by his near-perfect 85-year driving record, an insurance company has renewed the car policy of George Precoe, 101, of Hereford, for 1p.

Hot welcome

The luggage of 35 American tourists was destroyed in a coach fire on the M4.

Barracks blaze

Five soldiers were hurt when fire broke out in a barracks at Aldershot, Hampshire.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly Premium Bond draw: £100,000, 295W 813205, winner lives in Peterborough, value of holding £1,250; £50,000, 33HN 07038, Leeds, £10,100; £25,000, 4FS 749941, Lancashire, £22.

Professional tricksters give victims a mental mugging



Time-honoured trick: a beggar in Piccadilly Circus asks for the time, top, then the money

Beggars take toll of tourist trade

■ London's beggars are deploying ever more sophisticated techniques to relieve tourists of their loose change

By JOE JOSEPH

STAND, as many tourists in London do, in the middle of the footbridge that connects Victoria embankment to the National Theatre and the rest of the South Bank complex. On your left is a postcard view of St Paul's Cathedral. On your right are the railway tracks that feed Charing Cross. And straight ahead, more or less blocking your path, is a youngish chap with a tattoo, a dog and a girl friend, who snarls: "Can you give me some money?"

Tourists packing bags for London this summer should ready themselves not only for unpredictable weather and predictable food. Packing a little extra sterling in their wallets will help to fob off beggars who have become part of the scenery.

Outside Victoria railway station, where many foreign visitors "take their first sight" of London, clots of beggars, many drink, pester passers-by for enough cash to buy another lager, then drink the beer, relieve themselves against a wall and beg enough for another can. Tourists unlucky enough to emerge from the wrong exit of Waterloo station are hit with the smell of urine, the smog from bonfires and a volley of aggressively open palms.

Outside the Criterion restaurant in Piccadilly Circus, a more artful beggar entrap tourists by first asking them the time and then pressing them for a donation to his personal charity. You can see the tourists redden as they realise they have been outmanoeuvred by the beggar's equivalent of the three-card trickster. They are trapped and can no longer fall back on that tourist get-out of stammering "No spikka de English".

Tourists who hire cars are equally baffled by London's windscreen-cleaners who offer a service at traffic lights that drivers can just as easily arrange with a flick of the

windscreen-washer switch. Many assume it is an accepted toll of driving in London and pay up before driving on, bemused and resentful. "You move them along," a young policeman patrolling Leicester Square says, "but they come back. Many are just old drunks, but quite a few can get aggressive, particularly the younger ones. Of course, we get complaints from tourists, but how much can you do? They're here on the street, in the Underground, in Covent Garden. Walk down the Strand and you can't avoid bumping into at least one. They get particularly bad during the evening rush hour."

Beggars are not unique to Britain and most tourists are not dipping into their pockets for poundnotes for the first time. In places such as Los Angeles, the system of giving spare cash to strangers who accost you on your way home has become institutionalised. It is called mugging, and failure to pay results not in a shoving but often in a shootout. Things are not that bad in London, but many visiting for the first time feel sad as much as angry. A Venetian woman says: "Beggars are not common in Venice, and we are not used to giving money like this to strangers."

A Japanese couple in Piccadilly Circus finds even the politest beggars threatening. Coming from a country where it is rude to blow your nose in public, let alone buttonhole a stranger for cash, they rush past for fear of committing a humiliating social gaffe.

Many London beggars have become professionals. They have developed tricks, a patter; they have worked out whether politeness, humour or aggression works best. Some, like the Scotsman at Tottenham Court Road Tube station, have settled for humbug. He just shouts: "Got any change, you English bastards?"

Loans scarce for first-time buyers

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

MORTGAGES are harder to obtain than at any time since the 1970s and the squeeze is delaying a recovery in the housing market, according to builders and estate agents.

Building societies and banks are imposing tougher criteria on borrowers, especially first-time buyers, who are seen as the engine of a market recovery, according to Harry Hill, managing director of Hambro Countrywide estate agents.

David Holland, chief executive of Wimpey Homes, said it was becoming increasingly difficult for first-time buyers to save enough for the average deposit.

John Wriglesworth, housing analyst at UBS, the city brokers, said that on average buyers needed about £6,000 deposit. "The situation is more difficult for borrowers than it was in the 1970s. The big change has been that it is almost impossible for borrowers to get 100 per cent loans: 95 per cent loans is the most they can expect."

Lenders still advertise that they will offer loans up to three times income, or two and half times joint incomes, but such deals are hedged around with qualifications. Dr Wrigles-

worth said: "Lenders check county court judgments, services to see if the borrower has any outstanding claims. They ask for breakdowns of household expenditure and have sophisticated credit scoring systems, with questions about late payment of credit card bills, for example. They also ask for interviews. None of this happened in the 1970s."

The difference is that in the 1970s, borrowers had to wait for loans as lenders did not have enough funds because of low mortgage rates and restricted retail rates. Lenders have almost unlimited funds, but they are becoming more stringent in their criteria after billion pound losses in the 1980s.

Sue Anderson, spokeswoman for the Council of Mortgage Lenders, said: "It is true that lenders are now tighter in their criteria. But lenders are bound to have more sophisticated methods now than they had in the 1970s."

Lenders were caught between the devil and deep blue sea, she said. "If lenders relax their lending criteria, they are rapped on the knuckles for being irresponsible. If they are tighter, they are said to be delaying recovery."

Shoppers pay more in UK than America

By IAN MURRAY

BRITISH shoppers pay nearly a third more to fill their shopping baskets than Americans, according to a survey by McKinsey, the international management consultancy.

The report blames higher taxes, property costs and trade prices as well as lower productivity, but says high prices are partly the fault of British consumers putting convenience above cost. But the recession has changed attitudes and the survey says retailers must cut costs and improve efficiency to maintain profits.

McKinsey surveyed 268 items in seven categories and found that average prices in every sector were higher than in America. Do-it-yourself goods had the largest variation, selling at up to 77 per cent more in Britain.

A big factor in the higher prices was Britain's 17.5 per cent VAT, compared with a sales tax averaging 7.25 per cent in America, although the impact was variable. The Common Agricultural Policy, alongside higher British manufacturing costs, pushes up the price of food by up to a third. Shopworkers' wages are higher than in America, while the value of sales per employee is lower.

Car sales likely to hit August record

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

SALES of new cars could surge next month to one of the highest levels on record as companies shrug off the repercussions of recession to order models with the 1-registration plates.

Car sales have already provided the government with indications that the economy is starting to recover. Registrations increased by 9.1 per cent in the first six months compared with January-June 1992. August could account for 25 per cent of all car sales this year, the highest proportion on record and a strong signal that buyers, particularly company fleets, are returning in large numbers.

The industry estimates that registrations will top 400,000, the fifth-highest August total since the present registration system was started in 1967.

Car dealers and manufacturers have long argued against the August boom, saying it forced them to take a huge number of orders and stockpile large numbers of cars in just a few weeks.

At the same time, sales in other months are depressed as buyers wait to order their car with the new number plate. Sales in June were only 113,000. However, August is

now regarded as a welcome boost to four bleak years. Since 1989, when overall sales topped 2.3 million, registrations have tumbled to 1.6 million in 1992, the lowest for a decade.

Neil Marshall, chief economist at the Retail Motor Industry Federation, said: "The industry has in the past regarded August as troublesome, but... it brings a boost to what would be a very flat period without the one-month boom."

For the first time since 1989, companies are showing confidence about recovery by starting to order cars. Many surveys have shown companies keeping vehicles longer than normal to save money. They are now being forced to replace ageing cars but have waited until August to guarantee higher resale prices. Mr Marshall said: "Many companies extended their replacement period from two or three years to four or longer."

The government has contemplated scrapping the system, but police objected because drivers and pedestrians in accidents seem able to remember the year identifier even if they cannot remember the entire number plate.



Time after time: welders working on the Tower Bridge repairs and restoration marvel at Victorian engineering on London's most photographed river crossing

Victorian handiwork spans the years on Tower Bridge

By NICHOLAS WATT

WORKMEN repairing corroded beams on Tower Bridge have peeled off the road surface to uncover immaculate Victorian engineering and tools discarded by labourers more than a century ago.

Welders and engineers, with up to 20 years' experience on the bridge, are marvelling at the intricate workmanship of their predecessors who left wedges and rivets that are in such good condition they can be recycled.

The bridge, which was completed in 1894, closed last month after engineers found that steel beams

supporting the road under the twin towers were so corroded that in parts they had virtually disintegrated. Twenty-five contractors are working 12 hours a day, seven days a week to treat the beams and return the original steel trussing that supports the road surface.

Engineers, who say the rust is not as widespread as they had feared, are confident the bridge will reopen on time in the middle of September. Alan Bent, a welder said as he set to work with a well-preserved Victorian wedge: "The bridge is a great bit of engineering. Nowadays, people don't take that kind of trouble. The 100-year-old tools we have found

are as good as new and have no metal fatigue."

Pulling up the steel trussing, which sits on the corroded beams under the north and south towers, has been a laborious task. As the bridge is a Grade I listed building, English Heritage has insisted that the original panning is restored. Mr Bent and two other colleagues spent five days on each tower burning out thousands of rivets before the trussing was taken away to be treated and blasted.

Colin Snowden, the chief engineer of the Corporation of London, the bridge's owner, said: "Having cleared the trussing, we can now

cut out the rot from the beams and weld on plates to strengthen them. Some parts of the beams, which should have been 12mm thick, have been corroded down to 4mm."

The corporation aims to give the bridge a design life of 60 years. Mr Snowden said: "We will go back every five years to keep the bridge in tip-top condition."

The difficulties of repairing Tower Bridge in line with English Heritage guidelines are compounded by a law which says the lifting of the bridge must never be obstructed. Mr Snowden also paid tribute to the meticulous Victorian engineers. "We have to thank them

because they over-designed everything," he said. Of the flaws in the design, Mr Snowden said: "They only planned for 95 years and could not anticipate 42-tonne vehicles. Up to 40,000 vehicles cross the bridge nowadays."

Andy Beetham, of Mott MacDonald, the project's consultant engineers who have worked on the bridge since 1987, had one criticism. "Although the bridge would have rotted away by now if they hadn't been so careful, we have seen Victorian drawings of the bridge which show that every rivet had been put in place. We have come across lots of holes with no rivets."

Universities reduce A-level score needed for degree courses

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

WINNING a university place became slightly easier in the last academic year, the first time since 1986 that average A-level scores for new entrants had dropped, according to a report published today.

The statistics for 1991-2 show some significant changes in the subjects with the highest entry requirements. Veterinary science and medicine remain the most selective courses, but the gap has widened between the arts and social science subjects, and the rest.

Architecture and business courses, which followed medi-

cine in the pecking order four years earlier, have become easier to enter. They have been overtaken by the social sciences, languages and humanities. Entry requirements in these subjects are expected to rise even further this year because the government is trying to limit intakes to the numbers admitted in 1992.

Potential undergraduates are awarded 10 points for a grade A pass at A level, 8 for a B, down to 2 for a grade E pass. Veterinary science, where new students had at least two A's and a B on average, was the most difficult

subject in which to win a place. Medicine and law, which were next, demanded one grade less. Minerals technology, forestry and teacher training were the easiest courses to enter, with entrants averaging less than two Cs and a D at A level.

The report, published by the Universities' Statistical Record, shows all the science subjects reducing their entry requirements for 1991-2. The biggest drop was in mathematics, which had been one of the most difficult subjects to enter in the 1980s. By the last academic year, it had slipped from fourth to seventh out of 16 subject areas. Entry grades for business courses had fallen even faster, with the average down by almost half a grade.

The continuing decline in science grades will be of concern to ministers. Laboratory-based courses have been excluded from the limit on this year's intakes to try to encourage more recruitment.

Overall, the universities took 9 per cent more undergraduates. History, law and business studies grew the most. Postgraduate numbers were up by 12.5 per cent, with the biggest rises in education, business, architecture and multi-disciplinary studies.

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Average A-level scores for undergraduate entrants			
SUBJECT	1987-8	1990-1	1991-2
dr19p6.5			
Medicine and dentistry	25.8	25.3	25.9
Social sciences	23.0	23.7	23.9
Languages	22.8	23.2	23.6
Humanities	22.0	22.6	23.1
Business	23.2	23.3	22.4
Mathematics	23.0	22.7	22.1
Architecture	23.4	21.8	21.7
Creative arts	20.4	20.9	21.3
Physical sciences	21.0	21.0	20.9
Biological sciences	20.0	20.6	20.4
Agriculture	20.6	20.6	20.4
Studies allied to medicine	21.8	21.1	20.3
Engineering	21.8	20.5	20.2
Liberal studies	22.2	20.9	19.6
Education	17.2	15.9	16.3
Multi-disciplinary studies	22.2	23.2	22.9
ALL SUBJECTS	22.2	22.4	22.3

Covent Garden to offer 'aria miles' for the opera faithful

By ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

A NIGHT at the Royal Opera House is to become instead the "Covent Garden Experience" as the company seeks to revamp its image with sophisticated marketing techniques. Proposals include television advertising, telephone sales and an "aria miles" system, designed to reward regular patrons and encourage new visitors.

Covent Garden has been learning marketing techniques from Virgin Airlines. Discussions with the company have centred on its high-technology database, which offers regular clients special treatment. The Royal Opera House has made an informal bid to the Arts Council for cash to set up a similar system.

With the database in operation, opera lovers who visit the house several times each season would gain "aria miles". If the patron with enough miles usually sits in the amphitheatre, for example, he or she

might be upgraded to the stalls for a night — from tourist to business class. Discounted tickets for regular visitors is another possibility.

Other marketing ploys are intended to bring in new audiences. Paid attendance figures fell last year from 88 per cent to 83 per cent.

General price cuts are not financially viable, the opera house said. It intends to use its grand image — from high production standards to interval suppers and red carpets — to woo those who do not see themselves as traditional opera-goers.

Keith Cooper, marketing director, said: "We need to sell the whole experience rather than just *La Bohème*, for example. We are trying to learn the way to have a brand image from Virgin — to say the ROH experience is more than just the performance."

Jeremy Isaacs, general director of the ROH, is also

looking for ways of making the house more accessible to those who cannot afford ticket prices. The average ticket costs £62 for the present season, with an overall price increase of 4.5 per cent on last year. Subsidised Saturday performances, with a top price of £20, aimed at students and the unemployed are being tested this season.

The premiere tonight of *Sunset Boulevard*, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's latest musical epic, at the Adelphi Theatre promises to be one of the season's biggest openings. The guest list includes a range of British and American VIPs, including the actors Roger Moore and Robert De Niro, Lord and Lady Owen, and Frank Rich, the *New York Times* critic and so-called "Butcher of Broadway".

The £3 million show is based on the 1950 Billy Wilder film, which starred Gloria Swanson as a fading film star.

JPs excuse truants, say social workers

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

MAGISTRATES are failing to help to tackle truancy, says a study which shows huge variations in the way courts punish the parents involved.

The National Association of Social Workers in Education says action by the courts is shambolic, characterised by excessive leniency and a failure to take the issue seriously.

The survey of 61 local education authorities in England and Wales showed one-third of parents found guilty of not sending a child to school received conditional discharges. In London, three out of five parents escaped a fine, compared with only one in four in Yorkshire. The average fine in five Welsh counties was £188, but just £10 in Surrey, East Sussex and northwest Kent. The national average was £95.

John Patten, the education secretary, is convinced of links between truancy and juvenile crime. The largest study of truancy, published last month, showed one in three pupils aged 14 to 16 absconded regularly from school. One in ten pupils in their GCSE examination year played truant at least once a week.

Sue Allen, assistant general secretary of the social workers' association, said: "The low level of fines and variations in the use of conditional discharges may give out a message to the wider community that truancy is not that important and if you do not carry out your legal responsibilities as a parent then, so what."

The association is seeking meetings with the Magistrates' Association, the Home Office and the education department to establish national guidelines. Ms Allen said action was important because the school-leaving age would rise next year, with pupils required to continue until the end of the summer term in the year of their sixteenth birthday, instead of being allowed to leave before Easter.

The association is also particularly concerned by the seeming reluctance of some magistrates to punish parents when a child is about to leave school.

Rosemary Thomson, deputy chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said magistrates were frequently left in a difficult position because of the length of time taken to bring cases. She said a conditional discharge was often a more effective punishment than a fine because it left the threat of further action hanging over parents, many with low incomes, if the offence was repeated.

Education, page 31

Gene trick ends the gambling on lambs

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

SPRING lambing, one of the most ancient rituals of the British countryside, could soon join hay-making, hedge-laying and other traditional practices rendered obsolete by the advance of agricultural technology.

A new drug that induces early lambing by tricking sheep into believing that autumn has arrived in high summer is already in use. In a few years, farmers should be able to buy genetically engineered ewes that can lamb all the year round.

Nearly all British sheep are equipped by nature with a biological clock which ensures that the ewes become pregnant in the autumn and lamb in the spring, when the weather starts to get warmer and the grass to grow. Now scientists believe they can turn the clock off, allowing sheep to mate and lamb at any time.

There would be considerable economic advantages. A year-round supply of lamb would even out prices which at present fluctuate sharply. Retailers would no longer have to turn to New Zealand imports when home supplies were scarce.

Scientists at the Rowett Research Institute in Aberdeen

say that they are on the way to identifying the gene that controls the timing device in sheep. If they are successful, the gene could be deleted, so producing ewes that would ovulate year-round. Peter Morgan, a bio-chemist at the institute, said: "One of our goals is to abolish seasonal breeding."

John Thorley, secretary general of the National Sheep Association, said: "There would undoubtedly be a great benefit for the industry if this research were successful. We could produce lambs to suit the market rather than the season. We would also be able to get three crops of lambs per ewe every two years instead of just one crop a year."

Animal welfare groups are worried by the potential for much more intensive sheep farming. Philip Lymbery, campaign director of Compassion in World Farming, said: "Manipulating an animal's breeding cycle for purely economic reasons is unethical. This development would turn sheep into production machines and take them down the road to factory farming and the horrors that have already overtaken pigs and poultry."

Farm policy delay threatens wildlife

By OUR AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of acres of wildlife habitat in Britain are in danger of being ploughed up next month because the European Community is taking so long to agree new rules for its set-aside policy, aimed at curbing grain production.

Gillian Shephard, the agriculture minister, will seek clarification of the policy when she meets her EC counterparts in Brussels later this month, but her officials say that this may come too late to prevent the planting of some set-aside

land. Payments of £80 per acre per year since 1988 will cease at the end of this month. Unless farmers are confident that they will continue to be paid under the new rules, they will return their land to grain production.

Martin Green, of Down Farm near Woodcote, Dorset, set aside his entire 200-acre farm in 1988. The land, sown with a mixture of clover and grass, is now a haunt of barn owls and kestrels. Skylarks are ten times as numerous as on neighbouring farmland, butterflies have multiplied and hay meadow plants, such as toadflax and cranesbill, are thriving.

Under last year's reform of the common agricultural policy, set-aside farmers have to leave a different part of the farm fallow each year. This one-year rotational system has proved disastrous for wildlife.

Farmers are required to cut the grass cover before July 1 and are allowed to plough the land on May 1 in preparation for replanting. These operations have killed huge numbers of ground-nesting birds, whose breeding season runs from April to the end of July.



Shephard: wants new EC set-aside rules clarified

Court and Social, page 16

1993

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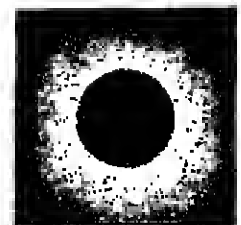
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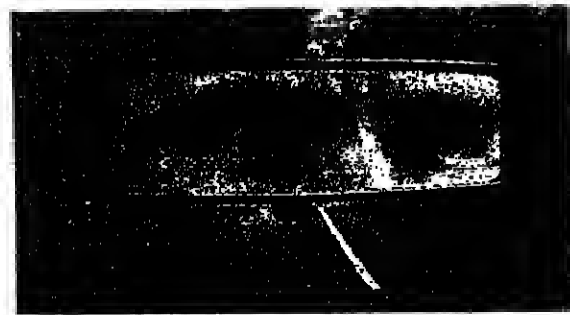
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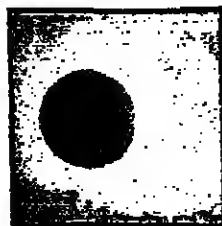
At the sides, further protection is given by high-tensile steel impact beams, while a robust rear ring-frame watches your back.

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Xantia



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The 3 turbo charged models have access to a muscular 148 ft/lb of torque and a 0-60 speed of just 11.6 seconds.

Performance which is complemented by the unique road handling system that endows all six Xantia diesel models with the rare ability to deliver driving excitement along with traditional diesel virtues.

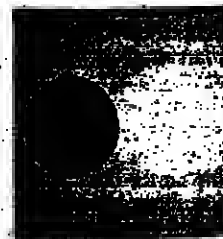
But should you prefer a petrol model, you'll find there are nine to choose from including the 1.6i, 1.8i and 2.0i, plus the 2 litre 155hp 16v.

Every single one of these engines has been specially designed to maximise responsiveness and flexibility across the rev range, giving you more power more quickly.

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مركز رايك

'The world is still a better place than at any time since 1939'

Chill peace follows Cold War

Four years ago, as the Berlin Wall crumbled and the Cold War came to an end, I was rash enough to conclude an essay with the words: "As one whose conscious political experience now extends over 50 years I can say that I would rather be living in 1989 than in 1939 — or indeed any date between the two."

Do I feel so confident about the world today as I, and I think most of us, did then? At the moment, I am not inclined either to regret or to retract that statement. It was a view that would probably have been shared at the time by the overwhelming majority of Europeans, in both East and West. During the previous half century we had been under dire physical threat. Then, after a very brief interval, came the long era of "nuclear deterrence", when it was impossible for any reasonably well-informed observer to contemplate the inherent risks without a spasm of visceral terror. Now, like the statesmen gathered at Vienna at the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars, we have to adjust ourselves to an entirely new situation.

The problems we now face arise not from the threat of foreign conquest or hegemony, but from social dislocation on a global scale: dislocation arising in part from the social and economic results of wars themselves, but partly from long-term secular trends that we cannot control and to which we can only adjust as best we can.

The process of change that brought western societies into existence will continue to operate, creating new problems to which we may prove fatally slow to adapt. The fundamental cause, both of the triumphs and the failures of liberal democracy, has been the continuing impact of the Enlightenment.

It taught us that we are free agents, endowed by reason with the capacity to understand the world around us and with the right to shape it in accordance with that understanding. Over the past two centuries, political and ecclesiastical authorities, social structures and economic practices that had endured for 1,000 years have been called in question and, as often as not, overturned; sometimes by violence, more often through a

Social dislocation brings new problems now the Soviet threat has receded, says Michael Howard

gradual erosion of their credibility. Their place has been taken by societies that have transformed the world.

Mankind has struck his tents, in Jan Christian Smuts's wonderful phrase, and is on the march. We have not yet found a resting place.

It is true that, in the 20th century, western societies have overcome many of the problems we had created for ourselves in the 19th. Indeed it may well be that, in spite of all that I said earlier, posterity will look back on the half-century between 1939 and 1989 as the golden age of capitalism. The war solved the problem of unemployment, and the need to maintain social solidarity during that war nurtured a welfare system that underwrote security from the cradle to the grave. Called into being to defeat fascism, the same solidarity had to be maintained to repel communism. Underwritten by the huge wealth and defended by the military power of the United States, the pluralistic democracies of western Europe and the Pacific rim were able to provide their entire populations with a standard of living beyond the wildest imaginings of the most optimistic prophets of the 19th century.

All that seemed necessary for the achievement of global peace and prosperity was the maintenance of full production, and the elimination of a communist threat which as time went on seemed increasingly threadbare. When that happened, surely history was bound to come to an end?

But it was possible to believe this only for those who lacked any sense of historical perspective. The Enlightenment has brought no peace, but a whole armoury of swords. It has always been western capitalist societies that have been the motors of revolutionary change. Communist regimes, whatever their revolutionary



Communism cracks: the Berlin Wall is breached in 1989

professions, have always attempted to restrain the process of change. The process of modernisation unleashed and encouraged by the West, on the other hand, is unending and ineluctable. Throughout the world, modernisation is certainly now improving living standards for many. But this is often being achieved at much the same cost in disruption, misery and alienation that characterised our own experiences in Europe a century and a half ago. Nor do our

sure of systemic and apparently irreducible unemployment. This unemployment is exacerbated by a global mobility of capital and expertise that can leave whole regions desolate almost overnight.

Today, thanks to the acceptance by the state of an ethic of social responsibility once confined to the private sector, unemployment no longer brings the kind of penury and desperation that it did in the 1840s. But its social and psychological consequences hardly need to be spelt out.

The second set of problems result from the erosion of traditional values and social norms. This sense of anomie may be more intense in Britain than elsewhere, because traditional values and standards have survived longer in this country than elsewhere. We are having to make adjustments that the Germans made 50, the French and the Americans 200, years ago. But the impact of the sexual revolution consequent on the development of reliable means of birth control is universal and is one of the most fundamental that has occurred in the history of mankind. The entire relationship between men and women has to be rethought.

The Times Essay

By Sir Michael Howard, Regius Professor of Modern History Oxford from 1980-89. This article is extracted from his Ditchley Lecture, delivered on Friday, July 9

New generations are left to work out their own morality, with little if any guidance from the past. The result may be liberating, but it is also bewildering and can occasionally be disastrous.

These problems, the domestic and international, are interconnected. The impact of Western science and technology has loosened the cohesion of non-Western societies where it has not destroyed it altogether, and technology has made it possible for their peoples to come in large numbers to our own shores.

Their presence is seen as an additional threat by those in our own societies who already feel insecure. The introduction of their cultures has sometimes had a salutary effect, inducing in our own people a spirit of wider comprehension and tolerance. But often, as all of us know, it has had the opposite effect, producing intolerance and reactive dogmatism of the nastiest kind. If the social dislocation created by modernisation has led to a fundamentalist backlash in developing societies, it has also evoked in Western societies the kind of xenophobic racism that Hitler and his imitators exploited so easily.

What then is to be done? Out of this unpromising material, what hope is there of a new world order? My survey has been pretty depressing, but after all, we have been here before. After every great war, whether hot or cold, there has been a chill peace.

We shall survive this peace if we do not set our sights too high and try to do too much too fast. For the foreseeable future, a global order must be inevitably multicultural, and its enforcement minimalist. We should therefore approach world problems not with the universalism of the lawyer, but with the pragmatic triage of the surgeon on the battlefield. He divides his patients into those who do not need help, those he cannot help, and those he can and must help. But the limits of our capacity to help anyone will be set by our ability to solve, or at least to control, the problems of our own no longer very rich, and no longer purely white world.

Sir Michael Howard was Regius Professor of Modern History Oxford from 1980-89. This article is extracted from his Ditchley Lecture, delivered on Friday, July 9



THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



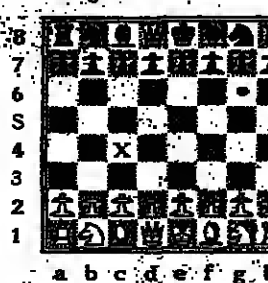
By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

How to follow the chess moves

CHESS, in distinction to almost all other sports, has a perfect medium for reliving the drama and details of any specific game.

Each piece is represented by a letter as follows:

Knight N
Bishop B
Rook R
Queen Q
King K



The squares on the chessboard are described by co-ordinates, consisting of a letter followed by a number (see diagram). For instance, the square marked with a cross is called 'e4', the square marked with a circle is called 'g6'. This follows exactly the same principle as reading off a reference on an A-Z street guide or road map. Everybody can pick this up in minutes. There is no mystery to it at all! Whenever a piece moves, the initial letter of that piece appears at the start of the move. When a pawn moves, only the square on which it arrives when the move is completed is mentioned. A perfect example is White's first move, 1 e4, (white pawn goes to e4) in the game which follows and White's second move is, 2 Nf3, (white knight goes to f3). Captures

are represented by an 'x'. For example, in the game below, the first pawn capture by White (on move 4) is pawn on the d-file captures the black pawn on e5, thus, 4 dxe5. The first piece capture by Black is also on move 4, the bishop on g4 takes the white knight on f3, thus, 4 Bxf3.

Castling is represented by 0-0, or 0-0-0. In the first instance, castling kingside, the king moves from e1 to g1 (or e8 to g8, if Black is castling) and the rook simultaneously moves from h1 to f1 (or h8 to f8). In the second case, castling queenside, the king moves from e1 to c1 (or e8 to c8) and the rook from a1 to d1 (or a8 to d8). In the following game, White castles, queenside on move 12.

This week, I shall be showing readers some of the most admired classic games. To many of you, these will be seen as old favourites. To others, new to the delight of chess, they will appear as freshly polished jewels of the mind. Today's brilliant offering was played at the Paris Opera House during Morphy's European tour. The concluding checkmate, preceded by a queen sacrifice, is superb.

White: Paul Morphy
Black: Duke of Brunswick and Count Isouard
Paris 1858

Philidor's Defence

1 e4 e5
2 Nf3 Nc6
3 d4 Bg4
4 dxe5 Bxf3
5 Qxf3 dxe5
6 Bc4 Nf6
7 Qc3 Qe7
8 Nc3 c6
9 Bg5 b5
10 Nxb5 cxb5
11 Bxb5 Nbd7
12 0-0-0 Rf8
13 Rxf7 Rxf7
14 Rf1 Qe8

15 Bxf7+ Nxf7
16 Qxb5 Nxb5
17 Rf8 Checkmate

Times Schools Championship

Haberdersham's Aske's reached the final of the Times Schools Chess Championship by virtue of its narrow victory over Newcastle Royal Grammar. Here is the vital game won by Gabriel Gottlieb.

White: Kulwant Bhatia
Black: Gabriel Gottlieb

Times Schools Championship, Semi-Final 1993

Vienna Opening

1 e4 e5
2 Nc3 Nf6
3 g3 g6
4 Bg2 Bg7
5 Ngf3 Nbd7
6 0-0 c6
7 Nf1 Nc5
8 Bc4 Bf8
9 Qd2 Qc7
10 Bb3 Bc7
11 Bf1 Bf8
12 g4 h5
13 h4 Nc4
14 Qc1 Qc3
15 Bb6 gxf6
16 Bxf6 gxf6
17 Qx6 Nf7
18 Qf5 Bf8
19 Nf3 Nf6
20 Kf2 Qd4
21 Nf5 Nf3
22 f3 Rf7
23 Rf1 Be6
24 Rf5 Re5
25 Nf5 Qf5
26 Nf6 Qf7
27 Nf7 Rf4
28 Qx7 Rf4
29 Rf1 Rf4
30 Rf1 Nf5+
White resigns

If your school wants to enter the Times British Schools Chess Championship write now to: The Chief Conductor, 4 Alders Road, Hale Lane, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9QG.

Winning Move, page 36

Ashdown calls for reform

By PETER RIDDALL

PEOPLE who are neither MPs nor peers should be allowed to hold up to a third of cabinet and other ministerial posts in order to open up the political system and government.

This is among a series of far-reaching proposals for reforming the British political process to be made this eve-

ning by Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, in a speech to Charter 88. A detailed plan is due to be published in a week, entitled *Here We Stand, proposals for modernising Britain's Democracy*.

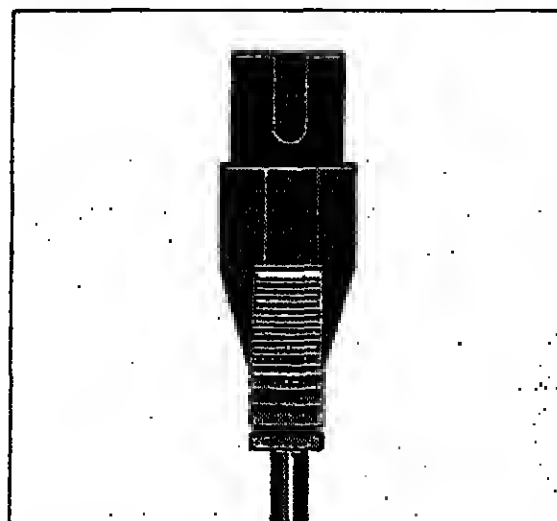
The party wants both to broaden the range of people

who can become ministers and to reduce the number of MPs who are ministers tied to the government. Under Mr Ashdown's plan, non-parliamentarians could be appointed to up to a one-third of ministerial jobs.

Commentary, page 14

Important notice for users of Sony portable audio equipment.

During the course of our continuous quality assurance programme we have discovered that, in extreme circumstances, the plastic casing on the plug of a detachable mains lead supplied as an accessory with certain Sony products in the UK could fracture.



This lead meets all relevant British Safety Standards, and will operate perfectly well when being used normally but it has been found that when subjected to unusually rough treatment a fracture could leave pins exposed.

This particular lead was supplied with the following products between

January 1991 and June 1993: CFD-250L, CFD-DW83MKII, CFD-757L, CFD-50L, CFD-120L, CFS-201L, CFS-205L, CFS-208L, CFS-D30L, CFS-W304L, CFS-W305L, CFS-W504L, CFD-703L, CFD-K10, CFD-770L, CFD-100L, CFM-140LII, CFS-1030L, CFD-775L, CFS-205L, CFS-202L, CFS-207L, CFS-710L, CFS-DW34L, CFS-W304LII, CFS-W308L, TCM-818.

If you are at all concerned about a Sony portable audio product you own please call us on 081-784 1133 (8.00am-10.00pm seven days a week) with the model and serial number, to be found inside the battery case.

Our staff will help you ascertain whether you have an affected lead. We would then send you a replacement free of charge.

Please also remember that in the interests of general safety no lead should ever be left plugged into the mains when not attached to the product.

Always unplug the lead from the mains first, then from the product.

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2. Please tick the initial monthly amount you wish to save:
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Russian drive for new economic pact alarms republics



Chernomyrdin speaks up for draft treaty

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

THE former Soviet Union's three Slav powers — Russia, Ukraine and Belorussia — unveiled plans at the weekend for an economic pact. The move effectively acknowledges the failure of the Commonwealth of Independent States to co-ordinate reform in the ten member states and will place further strain on the association.

The three countries' prime ministers met at a government residence outside Moscow to sign a document calling for the creation of a "single economic space" and said that a formal treaty on broader co-operation would be drawn up by September.

The move has been caused by strains in relations between

the CIS member states because of the differing paces and style of reform pursued by the governments of the republics. Whereas Russia has led the way with price liberalisation and privatisation, the Central Asian republics have been loathe to risk destabilising their ethnically fraught societies by imposing divisive economic measures. Even Belorussia and Ukraine have preferred a slower pace of change, leading to prolonged squabbles with Moscow about oil, gas and mineral prices.

The decision will perturb the non-Slav members — Kazakhstan, Armenia and the four Central Asian republics — which were not consulted. They fear that a two-tier CIS

■ The Slav republics, led by Moscow, are pushing ahead with reform. Their decision to negotiate a treaty adds to the strains within the Commonwealth of Independent States

will develop, with Russia, Ukraine and Belorussia, which account for almost three-quarters of the former Soviet Union's population and most of its wealth, dominating the association.

The agreement will also affect prospects for wider economic co-operation in the CIS agreed in May and calling for a Customs union and a unified price policy. Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian prime minister, said yesterday that the draft treaty would go much further than present

plans. So far attempts to secure close ties between the former Soviet republics have been unsuccessful, with Customs and trade barriers emerging on borders, which initially were intended to be open, and several defections from the rouble zone. Fears of Russian dominance have unsettled other republics, which are protesting at the effect of radical reform in Moscow on their blighted economies.

The deal which will try to co-ordinate the pace of transition to the market economy and

hold down inflationary cash and credit movements may be difficult to implement, however, because the presidents of Ukraine and Belorussia are more cautious reformers than their prime ministers.

It also comes at a time when relations between Russia and neighbouring Ukraine are tense after a vote in the Russian parliament on Friday that the Crimean territory of Sevastopol should be returned to Moscow's jurisdiction and calling for the withdrawal of Russian troops from the area.

President Kravchuk has responded cautiously, saying that the decision should not be allowed to set the two states against each other. He urged his parliament not to vent its anger by resisting the ratification of the Start I and non-

proliferation nuclear disarmament treaties and called for "business as usual" with Moscow.

President Yeltsin condemned the overwhelming vote by parliament. He said in Siberia that he was "ashamed of the decision" and said that he would ignore it. Ukraine has also been mollified by an American statement condemning the Russian parliament.

The move has no binding force because the Russian government, not parliament, is responsible for foreign policy.

Yerevan: Mario Rafaeili, the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe negotiator on Nagorno-Karabakh, flew to Azerbaijan and Armenia at the weekend for

talks on resolving the conflict over the enclave. Mr Rafaeili said Azerbaijan has accepted the CSCE plan and it was now a question for Armenia (Anatoli Lieven writes).

Mr Rafaeili was hoping to fly today to the enclave via Azerbaijan but, because of the continued fighting, that seemed doubtful last night. If he is unable to talk directly to the Karabakh leadership, the peace process itself may be wrecked.

Azerbaijan, Armenia and the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities all signed the initial stage of the CSCE peace plan in May and last month. Its implementation, however, has been called into question by the political upheaval in Azerbaijan and the offensive by Armenian forces.

UN aid for Bosnia 'will run out in three weeks'

BY ANTHONY LOYD IN VITEZ AND MICHAEL BINYON

THE United Nations was running out of money to keep refugees alive in Bosnia and now had enough to keep going for only another three weeks, Sadako Ogata, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said yesterday. "It depends on how bad it gets; how long we can carry on," she said.

In an interview with BBC radio, she emphasised, however, that the UNHCR would continue its work as long as possible and called for an international conference next week to discuss the obstacles facing the UN. Suggesting no venue or date, she called for more international co-operation and accused the warring parties of deliberately prevent-

ing humanitarian aid from reaching the refugees.

"They use aid as a weapon of their war and this is unacceptable," she said. Mrs Ogata has temporarily stopped all aid convoys from Metkovic at the request of lorry drivers because of the security situation around Gornji Vakuf in central Bosnia and near Kiseljak west of Sarajevo, the capital.

Journalist dies

London: A journalist carrying a British passport and a UN press card was found dead at Sarajevo airport, the Foreign Office said. A sniper shot him on Saturday night as he tried to cross the tarmac. It was not clear if Ibrahim Goksel, a freelance photographer, was a British citizen or who employed him.

More than 30 Arab fighters near the village of Puseje in central Bosnia yesterday forced a British UN patrol to make a hasty withdrawal. Two British Warrior vehicles commanded by Lieutenant John Reeves were on reconnaissance about seven miles north of their base in Vitez when they were stopped by Bosnian soldiers at a road-block. Within minutes two bearded mujahidin arrived on the scene in a black civilian vehicle.

Speaking in Arabic and English, the mujahidin made clear that the troops could go

no further along the road and should leave immediately. They were then joined by a crowd of other armed Arabs who accused the British in forceful tones of complicity in supplying arms to the Croats. They referred to a letter allegedly written by John Major to Douglas Hogg, a Foreign Office minister, outlining support for the division of Bosnia between Serbia and Croatia.

Members of Bosnia's collective presidency said in Zagreb yesterday that they had reached an outline proposal to make the republic a federation. The move amounts to rejection of a Serb-Croat plan for the ethnic partition of Bosnia into three mini-states. President Izetbegovic has condemned the Serb-Croat plan as tantamount to genocide.

The Bosnian presidency were putting their proposal to Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, the international mediators, when they met in Zagreb. Both men have expressed hopes that talks can start again soon in Geneva.

Mile Alkmdzic, a Croat member of the presidency, said: "We are going to Geneva by the end of the week... We'll negotiate of course." But Euphemia, the Muslim vice-president, said they would not decide whether to go until they saw the agenda.

General Philippe Morillon, the outgoing UN commander in Bosnia, said yesterday that he was leaving after 16 months of work in the country and a belief that the country should not be partitioned. General Morillon said the UN had to be stronger if it wanted the respect it needed to do its job.

The foreign ministers of 16 Muslim countries are meeting in Islamabad today to discuss the participation of Muslim countries in the international peacekeeping forces. A statement by the 51-nation Islamic Conference said Bangladesh, Indonesia, Morocco and Algeria had been asked by the UN to contribute forces to the UN contingent.

Muslim countries have been increasingly critical of what they see as the betrayal of the Bosnian Muslims and what they describe as double standards by the UN.

Price of water is death for Sarajevo

FROM TIM JUDAH IN SARAJEVO

IT IS a grotesque battle of wills and a murderous form of blackmail. For weeks Sarajevo has been without electricity, gas or running water. Basic supplies could be restored within 30 minutes. But for the Bosnian capital, the price of water is death.

The Bosnian Serb conditions for restoring electricity, which would start water pumps working again, is that power must simultaneously be restored to the Vogosca munitions factory four miles north of the city. The plant is believed to be capable of making 500 shells a day. These would then rain down on the city with water.

Captain Nicholas Studer, the French United Nations officer in charge of utility repairs in Sarajevo, says that if the world does not support the Bosnian decision to resist the Serb demand, or if neither side backs down, then "the international community must accept the slow death of the town". Captain Studer says that the Vogosca electrical supply was put out of action by Bosnian snipers, but that the damage could be repaired in half an hour.

"Nothing is right, everything is wrong," said Fuad, aged 26. He was queuing by a pipe which crosses the city's river. Some water still trickles in here. Hoses have been attached to nozzles on top of the pipe, and people cluster underneath with their plastic containers. Fuad spends four hours a day filling his con-



Water run: residents of Sarajevo pushing their water carts past burnt-out hulks in the city's Skenderija district yesterday. Bosnian Serbs are demanding electricity to be restored at their nearby Vogosca munitions factory in return for restarting water supplies to the city

ainers, trudging home and coming back for more. On the river bank women wash clothes. Old women sit exhausted by their containers while others tie their shirts with belts and sling them over their shoulders before braving the snipers to walk home. The life of the whole city now hangs on a thread. In the past two months, what little power there was has been progressively cut.

In a part of Sarajevo where

there is neither a pipe nor a handpump, pensioners sit in the boiling sun taking turns to guard hundreds of empty containers. They are waiting for a water truck to arrive. What few trucks there are fill up at the brewery above a natural spring.

But diesel fuel is needed to power the pump and yesterday the truck did not come. The brewery's fuel had finally run out.

To keep the brewery, and

other key generators going, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has the fuel waiting in tankers a mile away. But they cannot get into the city because the Serbs are demanding half of this and all future shipments. UNHCR says this is blackmail and will not give in.

Before the war there were three main sources of electricity. One was lost at the beginning; the second is damaged but it requires Serb

permission to repair it. They refuse unless the third supply is repaired and restored. The Bosnians, in turn, refuse because this is the one that feeds the Vogosca arms factory.

Bosnian and Serb negotiations meet frequently but they make no progress. Instead, the saws have been tightened. Because the Bosnians refused to restore the Vogosca power lines, the Serbs turned off the gas to the city. What

little gas there had been trickled in all the way from Russia. So, Ejup Ganic, the Bosnian vice-president, has told the UN that he is asking the Hungarians to close down the pipeline before it crosses their frontier. If they do so, Serbia itself will be without gas.

"The strategy is clear," said one woman. "They do not want to take the blame for killing Sarajevo, but they want it to commit suicide."

Gonzalez struggles to form cabinet

FROM REUTER IN MADRID

FELIPE Gonzalez, the Spanish prime minister, prepared his cabinet list yesterday, but his hopes of establishing a broad-based government to tackle the country's economic recession have been dashed.

A month after the general election on June 6 left Señor Gonzalez's Socialist just short of an absolute majority in the 350-seat Congress (lower House), negotiations with regional parties to form a coalition government have reached an impasse.

On Saturday, the Basque Nationalist party finally rejected Señor Gonzalez's offer of a place in his coalition in return for the industry portfolio. "I do not believe that blind faith, without a clear plan of

action and solutions for our long-term problems, makes a solid base for a successful collaboration," Xavier Arzallus, the Basque party leader, said.

The Catalan Convergencia i Unio party also rejected the Socialist's overtures last month, leaving Señor Gonzalez to face a gruelling round of policy negotiations to get his legislative programme through parliament.

The prime minister spent yesterday in his official residence, the Moncloa Palace in Madrid, discussing final details in his cabinet appointments. He is expected to name the new government before Wednesday's opening of parliament and is believed to have

included independents among his ministers.

Facing a stalled economy with unemployment rising to over 20 per cent, Señor Gonzalez has made clear that he hopes for a broad, consensus government to help to confront the crisis. In a two-day debate last week, the 51-year-old prime minister pledged to make his fourth consecutive term in office one of compromise and dialogue, with job creation and measures to tackle the recession as his party's top priorities.

"I hope to achieve a stable government, but we'll see. It won't be easy," he said. Ramón Jauregui, leader of the Socialists in the Basque country, said that goal had

been made even more difficult in the wake of the Basque Nationalists' decision. "Their 'no' has made the search for parliamentary deals on our most important pieces of legislation much more complex and laboured," he said.

The governing Socialist Workers' party won 159 seats in the elections, 17 short of an overall majority. The Catalan party captured 17 seats, with the Basque Nationalists taking five. Although Basque Nationalist support would still have left Señor Gonzalez in charge of a minority government, political analysts said he had hoped their backing would have made it easier to reach agreements with the Catalan nationalists.

'Third man' looms in German ambush case

FROM REUTER IN BONN

CONTROVERSY over the German police killing of a suspected urban guerrilla switched yesterday to a mysterious "third man", a police agent who may have been a repentant extremist trying to buy his freedom.

Reports lifted into the realm of fiction the scandal over the death two weeks ago of Wolfgang Grams, a member of Red Army Faction, and the botched arrest operation by the elite GSG-9 squad, one of whom Grams killed.

The affair, and above all the failure to refute a witness report that a policeman "executed" Grams in cold blood, have cost Rudolf Seiters, the

interior minister, and Alexander von Stahl, the federal prosecutor their jobs. The *Welt am Sonntag* said the man who led police to Grams and Birgit Hoge, his Red Army companion, in Bad Kleinen was a former guerrilla trying to prove that he had renounced his past.

Media reports had underlined spoken of a "third man" who sat with the couple in the station restaurant as an undercover investigator. But another newspaper, *Bild am Sonntag*, named him as Klaus V and said that he had already changed his appearance and been sent to America to protect him from possible revenge.

French publish their own frog-bashers' guide

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

THE French are an arrogant, vain, lazy, bad-tempered people whose ignorance of hygiene is only matched by their incompetence in the art of love.

There is nothing original about this routine francophile's stereotype except that it comes at the conclusion of a book published this month that might be described as a French-made guide to frog-bashing. It hardly sounds like an idea for a best seller, but *Le Canard Enchaîné*, the investigative satirical weekly, thought the French could do with hearing about their image through the eyes of those unfortunate who hail from less glorious nations.

"Our much loved country sometimes has a tendency to overestimate its fame. Foreigners describe us as frightful, dirty and nasty, greedy goblins rather than gour-

mands rather than good lovers, inveterate complainers who neglect their toothbrushes." Thus the preface to *Made in France - Why the World World Envis Us* sets the tone for 100 pages aimed at puncturing national pride.

Under diplomacy, for example, readers learn that France is not admired the world over as a universal champion of democracy, but is viewed as a self-centred troublemaker. French businessmen are described by foreigners who deal with them as convinced of their superiority, imbued with their importance and given to theory over practice.

It may come as a shock to the editors say, but the world is not in awe of Bernard Kouchner, Médecins sans Frontières and the other humanitarian medical organisations that the French media insist on calling, in English, "les French doc-



Mayle: his book is unknown in France

tors". To foreigners they remain unknown, it says.

Disillusioned Scandinavians, Americans, Japanese and other women queue to assault the legend of the demon lover. "They are all little boys looking for their mothers," an American says. Further, French women are accused by foreign men of being luxury-loving manipu-

lators who insist on playing endless games. Both sexes agree that the French neglect their hygiene, which, according to *Le Canard*, is deemed by foreigners to be nearly as poor as that of the notoriously dirty British.

No home truths are spared. The Spanish, considered by the French as admiring little Latin cousins, nowadays prefer "les Anglo-Saxons", it says. The Germans resent the French because they live well without working hard and the Japanese react with horror and incomprehension when they find a land of rude shopkeepers and waiters.

Perfidious Albion. France's ancient rival is given special honour. "Once and for all, the English cordially detest us," the editors note, quoting sources from the 18th century to *The Sun*. Peter Mayle, who is unknown in France, comes in for a special chapter. Thanks

to *A Year in Provence*, which has not been translated into French, "the entire planet is gently laughing at our expense," it says. The BBC's "clownish and francophobic" caricature of the book will make sure there is no new tourist invasion in the Luberon. "What sane British viewer could have the stomach to want to affront such a race of bad-tempered, mad, irritating people?"

Even allowing for a big dose of tongue-in-cheek, this exercise in masochism is slightly dangerous. The French are more aware of both the good and bad side of their reputation than they used to be and because many of the criticisms are blatantly unjustified it might just comfort the prevailing sense that Gaul stands alone against a hostile world. Readers might just wonder why more foreigners choose to visit France for their holidays than any other country.

ELIZABETH ARDEN'S
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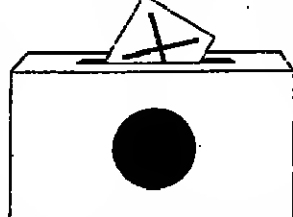
FROM JOANNA PITMAN
IN KASHIWA CITY

TSUTOMU Hata, champion of Japanese political reform, began a countrywide campaign yesterday to end the ruling Liberal Democratic party's 38-year hold on power at the polls next Sunday.

Elderly women with bonnets and blue rinses, businessmen in Sunday stables and golf shirts and university students parading in Japan's starched and spotless equivalent of grunge fashion stopped what they were doing in their hundreds to tune in to the self-consciously populist television talk show star, perched on top of a campaign bus parked outside a department store in Chiba prefecture, waving a pair of pristine white gloves and with a large pink rosette exploding from his lapel.

Mr Hata, the former LDP finance minister who led a group of defectors to side with opposition parties on a no-confidence motion three weeks ago, forcing Kiichi Miyazawa,

JAPANESE ELECTIONS



the prime minister, to call a snap election, has established the *Shinseito* or Renewal party, dedicated to ending Japan's one-party rule and reforming the electoral system and its famously scandal-prone, money-driven political culture.

An ambitious agenda perhaps for a three-week-old party, but Japan's electorate is nothing if not patient. Mr Hata's rebellious steps to stir up the stagnating political pot are being welcomed more as a catalyst for long-term change than as the creation of an instant political power.

Sacrificing the thrills of the summer sumo tournament and a Yomiuri Giants baseball match, the crowd of about a thousand listened attentively to Mr Hata's speech, which was by turns a stream of bellowed slogans and a dose of history lessons roaming from the 19th century to the end of the Cold War.

"We are living in a new world now the Cold War is over," he boomed. "Other countries are changing and Japan is still made to look a fool on the international stage. That is why Japanese politics should be changing."

A middle-aged man in the crowd said: "He is not the best by any means, but what he represents is certainly a better option than what we have had to put up with from the LDP. We have never had any credible alternative to the LDP. Mr Hata's party may not necessarily be the one for us, but at least it offers the possibility of change. This is the first time in my life that I feel a real incentive to vote."



Royal spectacle: the Princess Royal and her husband, Commander Tim Laurence, watching national day celebrations in Ulan Bator, capital of Mongolia.

Nigeria opposition ready to drop chief for share of power

FROM SAM KILEY IN LAGOS

LEADERS of Nigeria's Social Democratic Party are expected to meet the military government today to negotiate a power-sharing deal which diplomats said would produce a "win-win" compromise that could plunge the country into chaos.

Members of the SDP and its rival, the National Republican Convention, are expected to meet President Babangida, the military leader, to set out the terms for a "national government" which would exclude Moshhood Abiola, winner of last month's annulled presidential elections, from the presidency.

"There is a chance that if Babangida agrees to step aside for a member of the Yoruba tribe, they might be able to sell the deal to the south. But even that is a long shot. We believe that if Chief Abiola is not made president then this place will erupt," a senior Western diplomat said.

Babangida, Kingibe, Chief Abiola's vice presidential running-mate in the June elections which international observers said were the

cleanest in Nigeria's history, commented: "Planes are landing empty and leaving full, meaning that people are scared enough to flee, if they can afford it, because they know how the electorate will react if Abiola is not installed by the end of August."

Mr Kingibe said that members of the SDP who have been involved in secret negotiations with the government did not have the backing of the party's executive. "The honest part of the party will not accept a deal which does not respect the election," he added.

"I am totally fed up. I voted for Abiola and waited in the rain to do so. Ten years ago we were a rich country. Now we are among the poorest. If things fall apart this week there is no way the people will agree to it," said Anne Awolowo, 26, a student.

The whereabouts of Ken Saro-Wiwa, a leading author, remains unknown. Mr Saro-Wiwa was detained without a warrant in the post-election crackdown.

Letters, page 15

Buddhas for sale as Deng's army turns to business

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY
EAST ASIA EDITOR, IN HONG KONG

Inside Hong Kong's convention centre, with its sweeping views of this overheated engine of capitalism, the Chinese People's Liberation Army is putting its best boot forward, getting in step with senior leader Deng Xiaoping's reformist aphorism "To get rich is glorious".

Although this military march to riches has been going on since 1980, the "Peaceful Use of Military Industrial Technologies for Benefit of Mankind" exhibition takes place at a time when Peking has admitted that its national economy is in trouble. Nothing has drained the economy faster than the nation's defence plants, which account for a third of China's loss-making industries.

There is a vast network of at least 50,000 enterprises, ranging from manufacturers of space rockets and vehicle-making plants to research institutes, which make up China's defence network and employ between five and ten million people.

The army is not a poor relation in China's national spending. It has been rewarded for its obedience in Tiananmen Square in 1989 with budget rises of at least 12 per cent annually. Last year, military spending amounted to over \$14 billion (\$9.5 billion), which is \$3 billion more than all foreign investment in the same year.

Huge sums are allocated to subsistence, pensions, and supporting dependants. The shortfalls are large, especially in an army which realised just how backward it is during the Gulf war. But the word went out in 1979 that the army was to go into business, like everyone else in post-Mao China.

This has been put into moralistic jargon in the exhibition brochure, which says: "Late in the 1970s, the Chinese government re-estimated the development of the world situation and put forward a complete set of guidelines and policies for shifting defence construction ... and making preparation for war to peacetime construction". As it happens, 1979 was also the

year China got a bloody nose when it invaded Vietnam and discovered that the army was ill-prepared for modern war.

In that year, civilian output accounted for 8 per cent of the defence economy; this year it is almost two-thirds, and within a few years may amount to 80 per cent. This means motor cycles, bicycles, cosmetics, target pistols, washing machines and Buddhas.

The new 200ft-plus Buddha in Kowloon, across the harbour from the convention centre, was built last year by the Nanjing Chengguan Investment Company. "These are just a sideline," a company representative said. "We export a lot of satellite equipment. I can't tell you where. I just work here."

At the Great Wall factory, which also makes rockets, the man in charge of the exhibition stall pointed scornfully to a small collection of gold-plated Buddhas about 8in high and said: "For export to China no one believes in Buddhism." Over at the booth of the Research Institute of the Airforce there was a leaflet on bulletproof jackets, some pin-striped, some tartan. They are "mice-looking in configuration, fit well, and have good concealment". How well they stop bullets was not stated.

There is much money to be made from these activities and some of it goes straight into the pockets of senior officers. In 1989, according to Tai Ming Cheung, an expert here on the Chinese army, six corps-level and 38 division-level commanders faced corruption charges.

However, Mr Deng's spirit of capitalism hovers over the army. Last April, the *Liberation Army Daily*, after insisting on military devotion and sacrifice, said: "If we only mention the spirit of sacrifice to the neglect of the material interest, we do nothing but preach idealism."

Many of these civilian products, Buddhas apart, are difficult to export. "No one wants our things," one exhibitor said. "But our military exports are very successful. Especially to Iraq, Iran and Syria."

Inkatha pledges fight for a federal state

FROM REUTER IN DURBAN

MANGOSUTHU Buthelesi, the leader of the mainly-Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party, yesterday restated his demand for a federal South Africa, telling supporters that collusion between his rivals in the African National Congress and the government was contaminating democracy talks.

"We will mobilise public opinion to support our stand and we will drum up such powerful support across the length and breadth of the land that the government and the ANC will not be able to go it alone," Chief Buthelesi told 45,000 blacks at a Zulu national gathering in Durban.

"Our demand for federalism is a demand we make for the sake of democracy. It is not a demand we make for our

own specific advantages. Federalism is a form of democracy for everybody," he said.

Chief Buthelesi's party conditionally opposes the proposed April date for an all-race election.

In Johannesburg, Eugene Terre-Blanche, leader of the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), claimed he had the backing of three black homelands to wage "war against communism" and for a confederal South Africa.

In an interview in the weekly *City Press*, which has a largely black readership, Mr Terre-Blanche said he had the "full support" of Bophutatswana, Ciskei and Inkatha, which has its power base in the KwaZulu homeland.

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President must restore America's role as world leader



Baker: "If America leaves a vacuum, Japan and Germany cannot fill it"

President Clinton and his administration face a hard reality: international uncertainty in the post-Cold War world and domestic fiscal constraint increase — not diminish — the need for presidential leadership internationally.

The Clinton administration has enjoyed some success in foreign policy. Its support for President Yeltsin and democratic reform in Russia has been forthright and focused. The administration also deserves credit for the missile strike in retaliation for the Iraqi plot to assassinate George Bush, the former president.

However, the administration's confusing signals over Bosnia have caused consternation in European capitals and, by falsely raising expectations of American intervention, deepened the Balkans tragedy. While we must continue to open Japanese markets to American goods, picking an extremely public fight with Japan raises doubts about America's commitment to free trade. And, while the administration has correctly endorsed the Bush positions on Haitian refugees and most-favoured-nation trading status for China, waffling over both issues has called the constancy of American foreign policy into question.

As troubling as what the world thinks, however, is what the administration itself thinks about America's

James Baker, Secretary of State under President Bush, argues that America has been a force for good in an ugly century. It now needs to dispel myths distracting the nation from that role

role in the world. A creeping isolationism appears to have support within the administration among some who doubt the need for American leadership. The arguments of these doubters are the stuff of myths.

□ Myth 1: Someone else can lead. This myth reduces, on inspection, to one part pique and one part wishful thinking. It laments complaints that Japan, Germany and others are not "doing their share" with a pious, if vague, hope in internationalism, usually through the United Nations.

There is some validity in both the complaints and the hope. Germany, Japan and others should play a more active international role. Germany and Japan can best do so, however, in the context of partnership with America. But for powerful historical and constitutional reasons, Germany, Japan and others today remain unprepared to assume America's global leadership role. If we leave a vacuum, they cannot fill it. Nor will the UN. Although it is much strengthened by the end of the Cold War, it remains a forum for

lowest-common-denominator decision-making — unless America takes the lead in and forcing action.

□ Myth 2: We cannot afford to lead. This crudely mercantilist myth equates international power with international finance. Pure strings equal power. And our purse, the argument goes, is empty. As a nation, we face severe budgetary constraints. But those constraints put a premium, not a discount, on creative American leadership. Some argued we could not afford to prosecute Desert Storm alone. We did not have to. We built the largest diplomatic and military coalition since the second world war and shared the burden equitably.

President Clinton must be similarly creative. This is nowhere more important than in supporting reform in the former Soviet Union. If domestic concerns make the Japanese government hesitant to participate fully in help for Russia, we should push it to support reform and democracy in Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Armenia, the Baltic states and other independent states. They need support, too. We must broaden the

international effort beyond the G7 building a global alliance — as we did in January, 1992, when more than 50 countries and international organisations joined the United States to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe in the former Soviet Union.

□ Myth 3: Having won the Cold War, we can afford not to lead. With communism's collapse, this myth runs, the world is safe enough for America to withdraw from it. This myth reflects a misreading of the threats we still face: the growing risk of conflict in the former Soviet Union; Iran's regional ambitions; proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (especially North Korea's nuclear programme) and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq's residual menace.

The Clinton administration is to be commended for putting American observers in Macedonia. But this should be a more substantial operation, organised and managed through Nato, to prevent a broader Balkans war.

The sad story of European inaction on Bosnia reveals that only American leadership can bring Europe together on this issue. That does not mean America should be the world's policeman. But we should be willing to act with others where our vital interests are at stake.

□ Myth 4: America should lead internationally — but not the president. This is a relatively recent myth, dating from January 20. President Clinton needs to realise that, as much as he wants to concentrate on domestic affairs, the world will not wait for him.

Some compare the administration's focus on domestic issues now to the Reagan administration's single-minded push for its economic programme in 1981. That is a fundamental misreading of history. President Reagan did put the domestic economy at the top of his agenda, but he did not neglect America's role in the world. Reagan's foreign-policy convictions were clear. The American people, our allies and our adversaries understood them.

Pundits snickered when President Reagan called the Soviet Union an "evil empire". Well, it was evil, and, thanks in large part to the steadfastness of all American presidents over the past 45 years, it is gone. During the Bush administration, more than 43 nations moved away from communism and authoritarianism. For all our occasional lapses from perfect virtue, America has been a force for good in an ugly century. We remain the only country that responsibly can project power around the globe.

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Saddam risks new attack by Clinton over missile sites

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A CRUDE mosaic of a snarling George Bush has been laid on the floor of the entrance to the Rashid Hotel in Baghdad. Visitors must walk over the offensive portrait of the former president which bears the caption "Bush is Criminal".

President Saddam Hussein may feel he still needs to shout defiance at Mr Bush, but his more immediate problem is how President Clinton will react to the latest confrontation following yesterday's abrupt departure of a United Nations team after failing to seal two missile sites 40 miles south of Baghdad.

In inheriting Mr Bush's Saddam problem, Mr Clinton has shown no signs of being dovish. Indeed, he went out of his way to contradict that impression only six days before he was inaugurated last January. He heatedly denied that he intended to normalise relations with Iraq.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, Mr Clinton had left many observers with the impression that he was offering reconciliation to Saddam. Mr Clinton had said that if Saddam "wants a different relationship with the United States and the United Nations, all he has to do is change his behaviour".

In clarifying this statement, Mr Clinton said he would do "precisely what the Bush administration has done; I will evaluate what I do based on Saddam's conduct."

As proof of that commitment, Mr Clinton supported the decision by Mr Bush, just before leaving office, to bomb Iraqi air defences and to launch 40 Tomahawk missiles into a Baghdad factory area. These punitive attacks brought a hurried promise from Iraq that it would stop harassing allied aircraft patrolling the no-fly zones.

Mr Clinton exhibited his own resolve just over two weeks ago when he launched 23 Tomahawk missiles at

Baghdad's intelligence headquarters, this time in retaliation for the alleged Iraqi plot to assassinate Mr Bush on his visit to Kuwait in April.

Mr Clinton's firmness led to an immediate improvement in his approval ratings. It also demonstrated to the top brass at the Pentagon, still uneasy about the president's lack of military service and his pledge to lift the ban on homosexuals in the armed forces, his readiness to use force if he considered America's interests were under threat.

The president and his advisers have been signalling strongly during their visits to Japan and South Korea that an attack on the offending missile sites is a valid option. Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said the use of

force was "entirely possible" unless Baghdad complied with UN directives aimed at curbing Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Where Mr Clinton may run into difficulties is in reaching unanimity for forceful action at the UN. The Gulf War coalition has long since lost its cohesion. There are signs of weariness over what to some has become a largely Iraqi-American squabble. Industrialists from Japan and Europe are said to be itching to return to Iraq for lucrative contracts, if only UN sanctions can be lifted.

The French government distanced itself from last January's bombardment of

Baghdad factories, saying it went beyond the security council's mandate, although French aircraft did take part in the attacks on Iraqi radar sites. Russia criticised Iraq for violating UN demands, but was unhappy about civilian casualties. Growing opposition to military intervention was reported among British MPs.

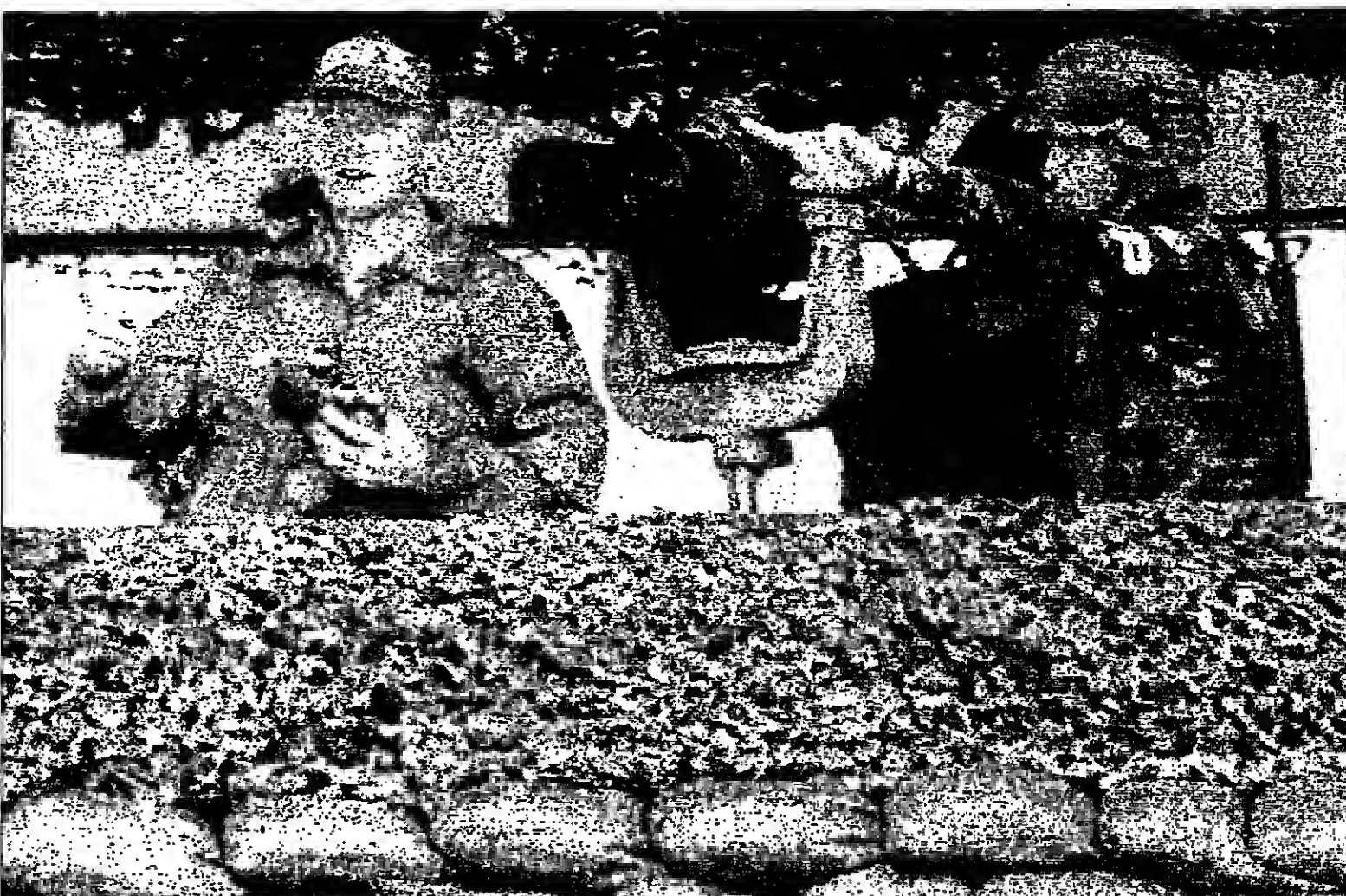
Equally unsettling for Washington was the alignment of its close ally, Saudi Arabia, with a chorus of Muslim nations demanding that enforcement of UN resolutions in Iraq be matched by similarly bold action to protect Muslims from being swept off the map in Bosnia. Turkey, Iraq's Muslim neighbour, is ill at ease over a continued drain on its economy caused by the sanctions.

The latest standoff is yet another example of Saddam's abysmal timing. It comes just as talks were due to start in New York over ways to ease the embargo so that Iraq could export oil worth \$1.6 billion (£1.06 billion) to buy badly needed food and medicines from abroad.

There are other mixed signals over Saddam's motives. The Iraqi leader has not uttered a word in public about the attack on his intelligence headquarters and has thus avoided having to criticise Mr Clinton personally.

In a conciliatory gesture last week, Baghdad ended its intermittent jamming of Arabic broadcasts from the BBC World Service and Voice of America. At the same time, however, Iraq refused to allow UN surveillance cameras at the missile sites, forcing one UN inspection team to leave Baghdad a week ago. Saddam has now refused to let the sites be closed until the cameras are installed, compelling the second team to leave yesterday.

Clash at UN, page 1
Leading article, page 15



Focal point: President Clinton being briefed by an American officer on the positions of the rival forces in the Demilitarised Zone separating North and South Korea. He approached within 150 yards of the North Korean positions

US threatens North Korea

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN SEOUL

PRESIDENT Clinton has warned North Korea's communist rulers that if they develop and use nuclear weapons it would "mean the end of their country as they know it". During a state visit to South Korea, the president threatened North Korea with tough economic sanctions unless it complies with international non-proliferation rules.

Mr Clinton also underlined his administration's commitment to the continued presence of the 36,000 American troops stationed in the country and to the goal of eventual unification of the two Koreas. The north's secrecy over its nuclear programme, and especially suggestions that it has obtained enough plutonium for at least one or possibly two

nuclear weapons, stood at the centre of talks between Mr Clinton and President Kim Young Sam of South Korea.

Mr Clinton paid an unprecedented visit to the demilitarised zone, the heavily mined narrow strip of land, which separates the north and the south. Torrential rains gave the visit to one of the world's last outposts of the Cold war an eerie quality, as the presidential motorcade drove slowly through flooded streets towards Camp Bonifas, close to the border. A helicopter trip had been cancelled.

From there, the president was driven to the Bridge of No Return, which crosses the demarcation line and which at the end of the Korean War served as an exchange post for

prisoners. The president walked on to the bridge and spoke briefly to a few American soldiers. About 150 yards away, at the north end of the bridge, was a North Korean command post.

The president later told troops at Camp Casey, the base of the second infantry division, just a few miles south of the demilitarised zone: "When I stood on the Bridge of No Return and looked over with my binoculars at those young North Korean soldiers, I thought to myself, I wish they were free to walk across this bridge and be with us in peace and freedom. Someday they will be."

The speech was an exercise in Mr Clinton's rapprochement with his military, and

draw loud cheers and applause from the troops. The scene, well stage-managed by the White House planners, stood in contrast to the booing and hissing Mr Clinton suffered at the Vietnam memorial two months ago.

Mr Clinton's visit to Seoul, where he arrived straight from last week's Group of Seven economic summit in Tokyo, was also intended to underline the priority which his administration places on relations with Asia, notably Japan and South Korea.

□ Students hurt: About ten South Korean student demonstrators and police were injured in clashes late yesterday in Kwangju as President Clinton ended his visit to South Korea. (AFP)

'Home alone' children up for adoption

Chicago: A couple arrested for leaving their two young daughters unsupervised at home while they took a break in Mexico have given up the girls for adoption, a lawyer confirmed.

David and Sharon Schoo became the focus of media attention when they were arrested last year. They pleaded guilty to April to neglect charges, and were sentenced to probation and community service.

The children have been in local authority care since December 21, shortly after they ran to a neighbour's house for help when a smoke alarm went off. (AP)

Lord's lament

London: Lord Bethell is trying to persuade the European parliament to boycott a visit to Strasbourg by Russian MPs led by Russian Khasbulatov, whom he accuses of using the trip as part of his campaign against President Yeltsin.

Ships tracked

Washington: Seven ships were being tracked by US Navy vessels after carrying 1,400 illegal Chinese migrants across the Pacific to America. The victims are in diplomatic limbo after Mexico rejected a US plea to take some.

Desert deaths

Algiers: Fifteen people, including four children, have been found dead in the southern Algerian desert. The victims appeared to have died of thirst and sunstroke after their vehicle broke down. (AFP)

Bawls of fire

Madrid: Jerry Lee Lewis was booed off the stage after he kicked a cameraman filming a rock 'n' roll concert. Lewis, 57, stormed off the stage to the disapproving cries of fans. (AP)

Israel blames Syria for border violence

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL blamed Syria directly yesterday for allowing the recent increase in violence in southern Lebanon and threatened to take retaliatory action against the Arab guerrilla groups responsible.

Last week's 48 hours of fierce fighting along the border security zone left five Israeli soldiers dead and eight wounded. Yesterday Israel said it held Damascus responsible for the clashes and made clear it would not allow them to go un punished.

Uri Litrani, Israel's chief negotiator with Lebanon at the Middle East peace talks, said military options were being discussed and added: "The restraint and patience which we have manifested for many months now in the face of quite a number of provocations is reaching its limit." He went on to blame the Syrian regime of President Assad for allowing the arming and training on Syrian territory of the groups responsible.

This fighting talk has overshadowed the Clinton admin-

istration's mediation efforts in the region, where Dennis Ross, the US co-ordinator for the Middle East, is trying to revive the stalled peace process. Yesterday he arrived in Damascus for talks with President Assad. Instead of bringing new ideas for the negotiations, however, he carried a warning from Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister.

Mr Rabin was quoted as telling Mr Ross on Saturday: "We view the incidents very gravely. We will do all that is needed to protect Israel's security and its citizens as if there were no peace talks."

Yossi Olmert, the government spokesman under the former Likud government, spoke for many hardliners in Israel at the weekend when he urged Mr Rabin to launch a retaliatory raid deep inside Lebanon and not excluding areas under Syrian control. "We have to strike at the head of the snake, at its main bases in Beirut and the Bekaa valley, and not at its tail in southern Lebanon," he said.

Wild West gunslinger goes on trial again

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

WILD Tom Horn, one of the most celebrated gunslingers in the West, will be tried for a second time this autumn, 90 years after he was hanged for the murder of a boy aged 14.

Last month, Joseph W. Moch, a Michigan lawyer, persuaded a state judge in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to order a retrial on the ground that Horn's conviction was unsound, the evidence inconclusive and his confession almost certainly coerced.

Tom Horn, played by Steve McQueen in the film of that name, looked more like a depressed seer than a cold-blooded killer, but one fact that has never been disputed was his talent for homicide. "Killing is my speciality," he once said. "I look on it as a business proposition and I think I have a corner on the market."

However, whether Horn shot young Willie Nickell on his father's homestead with a single shot in July 1901, while Horn was working as a "prairie policeman" for the big

cattle ranchers, is a subject that has been disputed ever since. Willie was found with a stone laid under his head. Horn's trademark signature, and the next year, while on a drinking binge in Denver, Horn allegedly bragged about killing the boy. "It was the best shot I ever made and the dirtiest trick I ever done," he was quoted as telling Jo LeFors, a deputy marshal.

Horn was sentenced to hang. The cattle barons, fearing he knew too much, planned to storm the jail where he was held, so the authorities brought in the state militia. Horn managed to escape once, was recaptured and went to the gallows in Cheyenne on November 20, 1903. More than 2,000 people watched the execution.

Mr Moch, however, believes the trial was a travesty. The bullet that killed Nickell was a different calibre from that of Horn's gun, he says, the jury was intimidated and the cross-examination was carried out by the judge.



McQueen played Wild Tom Horn in a film

According to some witnesses, Horn was at least 30 miles away when the murder was committed and a motive for the murder has never been proved. Tom Horn, according to Wild West lore, liked to shoot adults from close range rather than children from a distance. Marshal LeFors, it

is said, received a \$1,000 reward for turning him in and the name of Nickell's real murderer, Mr Moch says, will be disclosed when the case comes to trial.

Horn's life, as he noted in a short autobiography, was the stuff of Wild West legend. As a tracker under General Nelson Miles, he fought in the wars against the Apaches and was instrumental in the surrender of Geronimo. He later teamed up with W.C. "Doc" Shores, sheriff of Gunnison County, Colorado, to work for the Pinkerton Detective Agency in bringing in the McCoy gang of train robbers, a feat they achieved with maximum violence.

Horn left the Pinkerton agency because "the work did not exactly suit my disposition — too tame for me" and took up employment with the cattle barons tracking down rustlers and, not infrequently, shooting them.

While most of his contemporaries considered Horn to be a remarkably dangerous individual, many doubted that he was guilty of Nickell's

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'St Teresa of Avila was thoroughly pillaged after death: one of her hands ended up spending 30 years on Franco's bedside table'

Make no bones about liking relics

Doctors Pavel Ivanov and Peter Gill are remarkable forensic scientists, but I do wish they had not let the photographers talk them into brandishing the Romanov bones quite so briskly.

There is something about a pair of unadorned thighbones being held up by men in spectacles that does not quite accord with the sad, resonant, historic dignity of the last tsar of Russia and his executed family.

We know Nicholas and Alexandra and the children from starred and jewelled portraits: from the faith of *White Russians*. We have, perhaps, seen pathetic mementoes such as the tsar's tall felt boots, which were brought home by his son's English tutor, Sydney Gibbs, to stand quietly in the glow of a red sanctuary-lamp at St Nicholas House, in Oxford, for half a century.

We have known the family's last moments, gentle and religious and without rancour, from the memory

of those who were near them. Pavel Medvedev, a Red Guard, said that when they were taken to the death-chamber in the House of Special Purpose at Ekaterinburg "none of the tsar's family asked any questions; they did not weep or cry".

Later, when the blood had run, guard Anatoly Yakimov remembered the young tsarevich's spangle, Joy, "standing near the door, waiting to be let into those rooms. I remember this so well because I thought: 'You are waiting in vain'".

All this we can, down the decades, still pity. But there was the tsar last week, just a bone being summarily clicked at by impertinent cameras. I hope the ceremonial is swift, and secure; the bones deserve a bit of privacy.

This may not be as easy as it sounds. The tsar is regarded by

some Russians worldwide as a saint: to see, to touch these remains will rouse ancient and still very powerful desires. I am prepared to bet that splinters of dubious bone in gin-crack reliquaries will shortly be on sale in startling quantities on the streets of Moscow and St Petersburg.

This is how it is with relics: there is enough of the "true cross" around to build Nelson's Victory, and a mischievous Italian newspaper once calculated that there exist, in churches, a total of ten skulls of John the Baptist and 150 ribs of the apostle Andrew.

I collect anecdotes of relics, and have found them hoarded in the oddest places. The habit reached its peak, of course, in the middle ages: monasteries routed for the pilgrim trade by claiming a drop of Mary's milk, the tip of Lucifer's



LIBBY PURVES

tail, the authentic rod of Aaron and bottles containing the breath of St Joseph.

Relics were alleged to glow, liquefy, and blast infidels to death: a bone of Thomas à Becket tied to a long pole is reputed to have put out a house fire.

Fearful things were done by the most staid of early churchmen: St Hugh of Lincoln, a learned and

liberal builder of schools, was enough of a man of his time to bite a piece off the finger-bone of St Mary Magdalen's arm preserved at Fécamp monastery.

St Teresa of Avila was thoroughly pillaged after death: one of her hands ended up spending 30 years on General Franco's bedside table. St Thomas Aquinas was dismembered and boiled from the bone; indeed, in 1299, Pope Boniface VIII formally banned the boiling of holy corpses inside church premises. One must draw the line somewhere.

It is easy to laugh at medieval superstition, but desires deep-rooted in the human heart never really die. This urge to be near, to hold, to draw comfort from holy bones or significant rubble is part of our very nature. Why else do auction houses get such prices for

Monroe's old dress, Isambard Kingdom Brunel's hat and Napoleon's pickled manhood?

Some of us keep bits of the Berlin Wall on our desks, as comforting proof that the world can change. In Lancashire, I have seen a 300-year-old, still cherished, piece of heart for which a daring Catholic thrust his arm into the fire when an English martyr burnt.

In Westminster Cathedral lies St John Southworth, "drawn and quartered once but now carefully sewn back together by the present Archbishop of Liverpool and others. All churches insist that saints' relics are only for reverent memory, and not worship or miracles: but nobody suggests throwing them away. And there is no point coming all

superior and Anglican about it, either. The former Bishop of London, Graham Leonard, has in my presence cheerfully whipped from his pocket a gilt case containing a bit of St Philip Ner's kneecap.

He loves it: "The whole of our being is involved in our religion. In this particular piece of bone a man walked, and lived, and loved God. We must be careful of falling into a coy puritanism about these things."

Moreover, he added robustly, the Methodists, who condemn relics as a distraction, nonetheless keep John Wesley's old shoes on display. So they do. Of course they do.

The good do not hunt relics, but they do treasure them: the bad have always made money out of this very human weakness. Let us hope an incorruptible guard is mounted day and night, wherever the red lamp mournfully shines over the Romanovs' last resting-place.

Why the suffragettes failed

Seventy-five years after women were given the vote, Brian Harrison argues that their most famous political victory was founded on a myth

Everyone nowadays thinks it was the suffragettes who got women the vote. Yet you need only to glance at the terms of the Representation of the People Act of 1918 to see what a myth this is. For, at the same time as giving the vote to 8,479,156 women, the act greatly increased the number of men in the electorate.

There had been 7,709,981 male voters in December 1910, yet at the general election of 1918 there were 12,913,166. Not only had the suffragettes never campaigned to enfranchise more men; they had certainly never campaigned for the other principal change brought about by the act — giving women the vote on an age-restricted basis. The result was that women were kept in a minority within the electorate because only those over 30 were enfranchised.

Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughter Christabel had anyway disbanded their militant suffragette organisation, the Women's Social and Political Union, in 1914, and were not much help to the suffragists, the non-militants who were easing the bill through

Parliament in 1917-18. The real victors were not the suffragettes, or even the non-violent suffragists (who were more numerous and more decent in their methods than the suffragettes because they did not anticipate modern urban terrorism by burning people's letters, breaking windows and setting fire to buildings). The real victors were two other groups about whom one hears rather little nowadays: the adult suffragists and the anti-suffragists, or Antis.

The adult suffragists had been campaigning for what they called "human suffrage" — that is, for giving votes to all adult men and women — at least since Chartist times in the early-Victorian period, and during the Edwardian years they had the staunch backing of important sections of the labour movement. There was a democratic, not a feminist, campaign. They wanted votes for an entire class, regardless of gender.

But what of the Antis? Surely the 1918 act represented a sound defeat for them? Not at all, for the act both met their fears and embodied their hopes. They had been battling

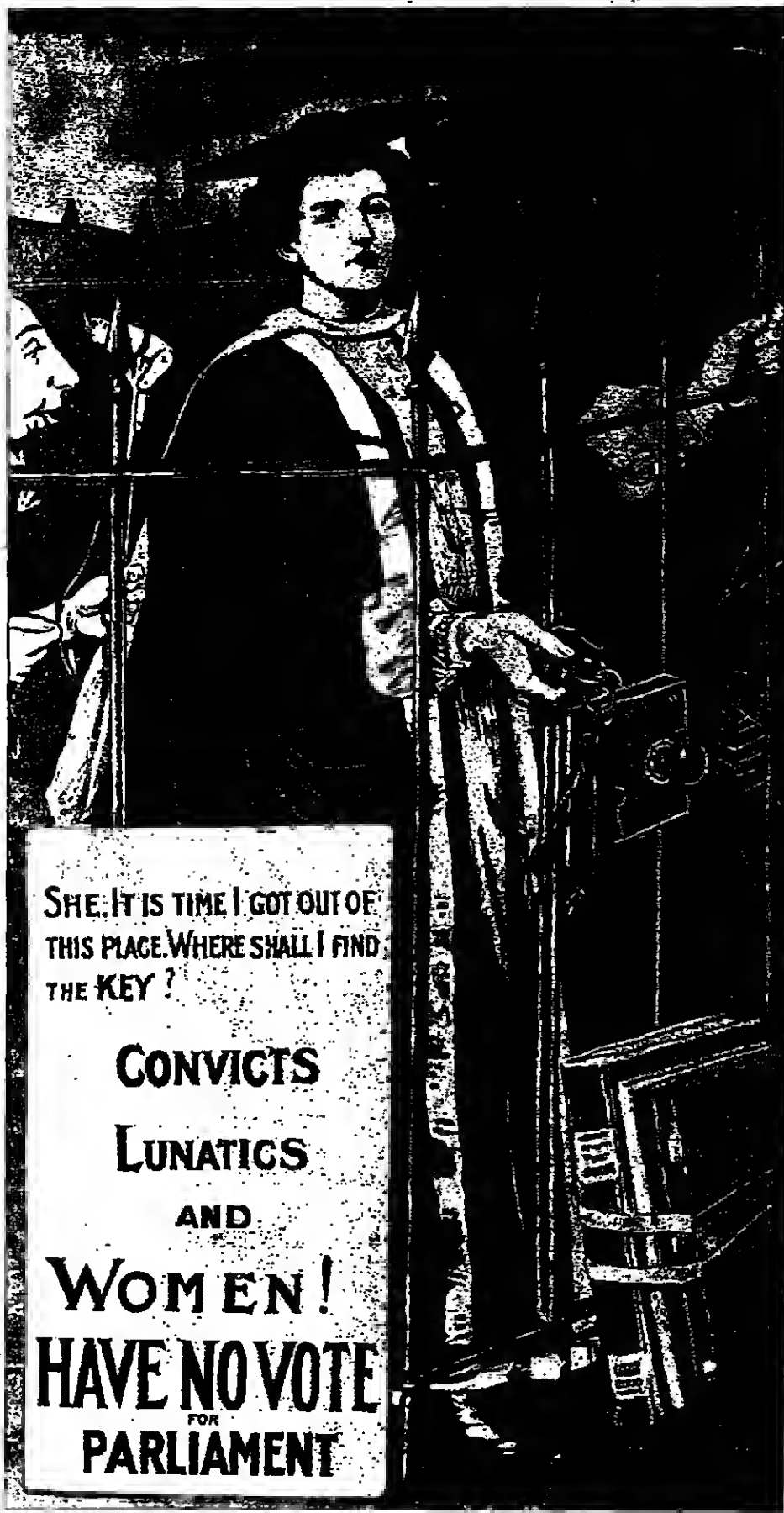
away for what now seems a hopelessly lost cause ever since the 1860s. Men and women, they said, occupied separate spheres, and nature (or God) had given them the temperament needed for filling those spheres. Women's sphere was home and family — both spheres being more demanding than that now.

Housework before detergents and washing machines was complicated. Pregnancy was relatively frequent and dangerous. Therefore women (the Antis said) were on average more emotional, less logical, more patient and morally more refined than men, and so were specially equipped for childbearing and good works. Men, by contrast, were the fighters with all the professional knowledge, physical courage and physical force (not least because men don't get pregnant) that their role required.

The Antis' arguments seemed so convincing to their contemporaries that they thought they would win any referendum — even one of women — on the subject, let alone a referendum of men. In consequence, the suffragist leaders were keen that they should not be given this opportunity for proving the popularity of their cause.

Yet, surely, it was because the Antis' arguments had come to seem absurd that women got the vote in 1918? Wrong again. The franchise was extended on a massive scale in 1918 not because people had ceased to believe in the separation of spheres. If anything, the war had confirmed belief in that separation, for broadly speaking it was the men who were at the front and the women who stayed at home. Many suffragists had never rejected the "separate spheres" notion anyway — a notion which is still widespread.

What produced the act of 1918 was the government's belief that there was an urgent need to stabilise the political system in the face of revolutionary danger. The men were



Railing against their fate: a campaign poster issued by the suffragette movement

trained on a mass scale for the first time in British history to use firearms. Peacetime disappointments were bound to occur, and ex-servicemen might all too easily be seduced by communist Russia.

As so often before in British history, the vote in 1918 was the alternative to revolution, a way of broadening the base of the existing system and so rendering it more defensible. Women were included with the men because during the war only a tiny minority of them had been pacifist; most had energetically knitted socks and mended for the troops and rallied behind patriotic causes. Their inclusion (safely in a minority, of course) in the electorate would stabilise the state in a dangerous postwar world. So the war dispelled many of the Antis' fears (nourished by suffragette antics before the war) about women's political reliability and seemed to have validated their philosophy. No point in the Antis holding out any longer.

Why is the myth about the 1918 act so widely believed? Partly, I suppose, because it seems to provide the man or the woman in the street with a short cut through the complexities of history. Most people haven't the time or inclination to discover how things really happened. People also like to comfort themselves with the thought that in human affairs virtue is rewarded.

After all, the suffragettes were brave, and now that their war record had made it plain that they no longer endangered the state, there was nothing to be gained by denying them the credit.

Why didn't the adult suffragists or the anti-suffragists grumble after 1918 at being washed up into the backwaters of history? Well, if you are prudent in politics you don't usually brag about your triumphs: there are more important things to do, and it is important not to stir up unnecessary resentments.

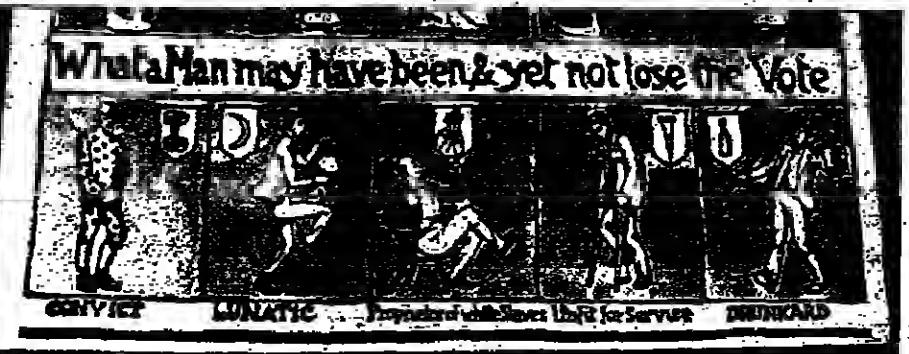
Violet Markham and the Duchess of Atholl, to choose

two prominent female opponents of votes for women, were busy making their way in inter-war politics. The duchess became parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Education in 1924. And Margaret Bondfield, a prominent adult suffragist, was well on her way towards becoming the first woman cabinet minister in 1929.

Besides, if somehow history has come to portray you as on the losing side, you don't advertise the fact. After all, in 1945 reminded us of their Nazi past, just as I suspect rather few Romanians nowadays talk about their earlier enthusiasm for Ceausescu. Let bygones be bygones.

Dr Harrison is a Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

Matthew Parris's article (right) also appears in the commemorative newspaper published by The Times for the launch of Women into Politics. To receive a copy, and for more information, write to Teresa Gorman MP, at the House of Commons.



Injustice: a 1908 poster emphasises the strength of feeling among suffragettes

Get them on their figures

Matthew Parris on the Commons sketch writer's surface missiles

AT WESTMINSTER there is a fine tradition of insulting women MPs by making personal remarks about their appearance, and it is a tradition I am proud to uphold as a parliamentary sketch writer. It is equalled only by a parallel tradition — that of insulting male MPs by reference to their appearance. To this noble practice too, I am determined to adhere.

I learnt my trade at the feet of my predecessor as Times sketch writer, Craig Brown. Observing one of the most magnificent sights the visitor to the Commons can hope, if lucky, to witness — that of Dame Jill Knight (C Edgworthstown) running, in a floral print blouse — Brown remarked that the spectacle put him in mind of a fight in a hydraulic press. I have since learned that this was a reference to her appearance, and not to her political stance. I have since learned that this was a reference to her appearance, and not to her political stance.

Indeed I have had to ration my references to Dame Jill's bust as it was beginning to become an obsession and obscure my regard for her as the shrewd but kindly populist politician she is. I am allowed one reference per annum. That was it. Similar rationing is in force over Michael Fabricant's wig, although like Dame Jill Mr Fabricant (C Mid-Staffs) has shoulders broad enough to laugh off these impertinences. Barbara Castle's hilarious account of how her own wig caught on a trailing cable as an old people's home gutted by fire in which she was trying to strike concerned poses for the TV cameras, is the funniest thing in her memoirs. Wigs are funny. Busts are funny. Double chins are funny. Poking fun at dignified ladies is a reliable source of hilarity for us men, who are kids at heart. If ladies want to poke fun at us (Edwina Currie does it well) all power to their elbows. And if Andrew Rawnsley of The Guardian was entitled

(and he was to say of the late Richard Hogg, then MP for Leamington, that he had a face like one of those choose-your-own-ingredients deep-dish pizzas in which the diner had gone over the top and ordered cheese and tomatoes, anchovies, peppers, pineapples and a double helping of black olives... then why shouldn't one of the fellow-MPs of the relentless Dr Alice Mahon (L Halifax) say of her "kiss her under the anaesthetic"? And why shouldn't another remark of Billericay's wonderful Teresa Gorman that she was "not so much over-dressed as all wrapped up in herself"?

These women are after all perfectly capable of defending themselves. Nancy Astor once reproached Winston Churchill for cold-shouldering her at Westminster. When he replied that a woman's presence there "raised him as much as it would were she to enter his bedroom when he had nothing but a sponge with which to defend himself, Lady Astor remarked that he wouldn't need his sponge: he was far too unattractive to be at risk in his bedroom or anywhere else. Mrs Gorman frequently tells male MPs that men who assault women should (in her charming Essex phrase) "have their godelies cut off".

People say to me "but why do you concentrate on their appearance? Aren't there more interesting things to say about female politicians, than to make offensive personal remarks? Have they no more memorable qualities?"

And I reply, No, they do not, most of them, any more than the men do: but at least the women get noticed. This is a profession where to be noticed is all, is lucky for them. In this, women have a freedom denied to men: the freedom to express themselves by what they wear, and to stand out by their choice of clothes. They can use their appearance as a formidable political weapon. A little gentle ridicule is our best shield against that weapon, and we sketch writers will make full use of our freedom to wield it.



Rated: Ann Widdecombe (top) and Teresa Gorman

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Big strides from Milan



PAUL SMITH: CHECKING OUT OF THE BAGGIES



COMMES DES GARÇONS: (LEFT) NERDS REVENGE GAULTIER: PLAYING WITH THE ASIAN INFLUENCE

Men's fashion is basically a matter of reinventing the trouser, says Kathryn Flett

You can wish your life away in the fashion business. Sitting, for example, inside under hot lights on a transcendently beautiful July afternoon in Paris watching next summer's wardrobe metamorphose in front of you, it is without any shadow of a doubt, a funny old game. And even funnier for a woman reporting on menswear.

Since becoming the editor of a men's magazine, nine months ago, I've been on a crash course in the subtle art of reinventing the trouser. Unlike reporting on women's wear, writing about men's fashion requires the observer to look for God in the details. Gone is the Big Statement — or rather Big Statements are merely relatively Big, when you consider that there can be only a limited number of permutations on the basic masculine ensemble.

The fashion capitals of Milan and Paris traditionally have different approaches to this challenge. To generalise, Milan is home to the less-is-more ethos of design; home to designers whose particular skill is in making apparently effortless, easy, 'imfussy' garments that ignore theatrics in favour of contemporary reinterpretations of classics.

In Milan, if I wrote the words 'cream linen once', I wrote them several hundred times. But that's not to say that these were identikit permutations. No, Dolce & Gabbana's cream linen, for example, is a distant cousin to that of, say, Giorgio Armani, and both variations on the theme can be considered (cue dread fashion journalists) 'directional' for next summer.

Where Gabbana showed rough-hewn, diabolical and sarong, oatmeal cardigans, baggy trousers and suede T-shirts on bald models, Armani opted for more literal ethnic interpretations of a look favoured by North African cab drivers (albeit modelled by a succession of squeaky-clean WASP boys).

Armani is always on more successful ground when he produces a suit that seems simplistic to the untutored eye but which is actually supremely skilful in its execution. Top marks, then, for this season's softly crumpled heavy linen two-piece with a long line, slightly curvaceous, deep-vented jacket over gloriously fluid wide trousers that conjure up images of Cary Grant at his most effortlessly sophisticated.

If Armani is the King of Milan (or even God, at the end of his show he appeared to the faithful after a brief blackout, during which all the models seated themselves cross-legged and wide-eyed, facing the catwalk entrance), then Versace is the Emperor. With plenty of new clothes, Effortlessly sophisticated are not words that spring to mind when attempting to describe the Versace oeuvre. This season, Gianni eschewed a catwalk show in favour of a "presentation": tableaux vivants of young demi-gods reclining on velvet cushions, clutching wilted roses, reduced me to near-hysteria, but I suspect I was in the minority.

It was hard to focus on the clothes, but if you looked hard there were enough ideas — his crumpled, perforated suits among them — to ensure that A-list rock stars will continue to be dressed in the manner to which they have become accustomed.

Elsewhere in Milan, commercial and wearable variations on themes were the order



DOLCE & GABBANA: THE ROUGH-HEWN LOOK, A DISTANT COUSIN TO ARMANI

of the day. The nightclub dress code "Casual but Smart" may have been invented to describe Valentino, who is a whizz with the "easy" suit and equally strong at reinventing the English Look, with a selection of separates in combinations of charcoal and slate silk and linen, plus some arresting coral-coloured suits.

Byblous, too, were unafraid of linen-with-a-twist, memorably in lilac and canary-meets-lime wearable in loose cream three-piece suits and double-breasted high-buttoned raglan sleeved jackets over yet more of the obligatory fluid, baggy trousers. In fact everyone had a stab at the baggy trousers. Katharine Hammett's were baggier than most but owed little to Cary Grant. Hammett was on form this season, mixing looks that combined both combat gear, sarongs and even kaftans to surprisingly logical effect. Her baggy drill trousers, oversized jackets and pared-down unfussy sportswear were particularly admired.

In Paris you are guaranteed a smorgasbord of directions, but the prevalent Milanese mélange of Middle Eastern and Asian influences was picked up and played with most successfully by Gaultier.

His turbans won't be making their mark on our high streets but his artful interpretations of the Nehru jacket should.

Yohji Yamamoto opted for multiple variations on the theme of the Crisp White Shirt, with abstract pin-tucks teamed with, yes, baggy trousers. A sort of depression era hobo look with deeply ironic — at least one hopes they were deeply ironic — overtones, including shoes with peeling soles.

Meanwhile Rei Kawakubo for Comme des Garçons delivered a collection I dubbed Revenge of the Nerds. This was a sort of David Lynchian vision of Fifties preppy style: American classics with considerably more than just a twist. I liked it, but not everyone will welcome the return of the wide-shouldered boxy jacket and twee floral print shirt. Beneath the styling, however, lurk the usual coverable Comme suits and trousers.

Paul Smith, on the other hand, managed pretty much to avoid the prevalent bagginess in favour of more of his slick, slim suits, this season in airy linen colour combinations.

Elsewhere in Paris, Cerruti proved again that he is second to none, including Armani (his former assistant), when it comes to the effortless suit

and Sonia Rykiel's black linen three-pieces made a welcome respite from, well, white.

Spending so much time looking at menswear has a knock-on effect. These days I shop and forget I can wear skirts. Next summer I'll be adapting the baggy East-meets-West softly tailored linen look for myself. With a bit of luck I might even be able to carry off a turban.

● The author is Editor of Arena.



Tableaux vivants of young demi-gods on cushions reduced me to near-hysteria'

KATHRYN FLETT



ARMANI: (ABOVE) SIMPLE VERSACE: CRUMPLED

DESIGNER CLOTHES AT GIVEAWAY PRICES

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● FASHION and opera collide later this month when costumes created by the Japanese fashion designer Yohji Yamamoto will be worn in Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* at the Bayreuth Festival. Heiner Müller, the general director of the festival, was inspired to commission the designer after seeing Wim Wenders' film *A Notebook on Clothes and Cities* — the wardrobe was designed by Yamamoto. When asked to describe the result of his labours, Yamamoto defined his creations as black holes.

● BUYERS looking for affordable and original designer fashion should make a date to visit Bias, the graduate fashion sale. Finola Inger and Emma Hill, who graduated last year from Ravensbourne College, have arranged for fashion graduates from colleges and universi-

ties throughout Britain to sell their collections under one roof later this week. Bias, YMCAs, 112a Great Russell Street, London WC1, July 16 and 17, 10am to 8pm.

● THE loose, unstructured lines of Japanese design are not usually associated with Hollywood or with country music. So the choice of a simple white shirt by Rei Kawakubo, the 'Comme des Garçons' designer, as the wedding dress of the actress Julia Roberts has raised some eyebrows in America. The \$2,000 (£1,300) dress was reported to have been bought by Roberts' groom, the country singer Lyle Lovett. "It looked more like a shift that should go under a wedding dress," said one guest at the ceremony. Lovett, once a model for Comme des Garçons, is now a regular customer.

RACHEL COLLINS

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Matthew Parris



The unconditional love of mothers for their sons is a unique and primal force in the human world

Recently my mother telephoned. She had been reading copies of my articles, collected for her by my secretary. Mum was particularly enthusiastic about one article and began to tell me why she liked it. Another, too, had especially appealed; but (she said) she enjoyed all my writing, and... at this point, overcome by maternal pride and affection, Mum became unable to speak. She burst into tears.

I should immediately tell you that, as columnist's mothers go, my mother is young (in her mid-sixties) and not gaga at all. She has always been like this. I remember (she must have been about 77) when she snatched my younger brother and then burst into tears because she had smacked him. They both sat down, blubbing.

Then there was the time in the 1960s when we lived in Southern Rhodesia and my mother went to a political meeting of Rhodesian whites to speak in favour of African education, which Ian Smith was trying to cut. Her audience was mostly hostile. Mum felt deeply

about this: so much so that in the middle of her speech the power of her convictions overcame her, tears filled her eyes, her voice deepened, and she had to sit down. She came home feeling that her speech had been a failure. But I thought it was rather a success, and felt proud.

All that's by the way, for it was not my own mother I meant to talk about. Her rush of affection on the telephone (which I only pretended to be embarrassed by) was the starting point for a more general reflection.

I know that not every mother feels like this about every son. But I believe that many do, for at least some of the time, and the fact that most may not express it so freely as my own mother does not mean it is not there, or that sons do not know it is there. It is felt almost regardless of the actual achievements of the boy. Even if you fail, your mother will make excuses. Any success, however small, will delight her.

My theory is simple. I think there commonly exists, from mother toward son, a love which is not conditional and which is completely without selfishness. I think that in human society there is no other category of relationship in which this is common. My conclusion is that men, many of them, have buried within their memories the knowledge of what it is like to be entirely loved, and loved only for themselves.

Of course, I accept at once that this conclusion is highly speculative. Judge it according to your own intuition. But upon my premise, about the uniqueness of a

mother's love toward her son, I can more constantly insist. Look at the other main categories of human love: mother to daughter, father to son or daughter, daughter or son to father or mother, love between siblings, and romantic love.

Romantic love you may immediately discard. It is always partially selfish, because an affair between two people is for mutual satisfaction and support. Lovers know this. Sibling love you may discard too. It is usually mixed with open or buried resentments. Siblings are aware of these.

The affection of the offspring (boy or girl) for the parent may be strong, but who can deny the element of cupboard love? Parents know this.

Mothers and daughters often enjoy a more fraught relationship than mothers and sons. Mothers have a clearer idea of how their daughter ought to turn out. The love is more conditional, and sometimes there are undertones of rivalry.

Fathers do sometimes show towards daughters a love of the intensity sons expect from their mothers. It may be no coincidence that many of the world's most successful women enjoyed such a relationship in girlhood. But fathers bully, expect results, make conditions, and can grow cold if thwarted. Sons and daughters know they have to earn their

father's love, and could forfeit it. Sons, I think it fair to say, do not so often feel this of their mothers' love. It is ours by right, and keeps coming, like the sunrise, whatever we do. It is a wonderful feeling, and I ask myself how many women have ever experienced it?

I believe the unconscious security this imparts may explain the male openness towards risk: the capacity of many men to realise their own potential more fully than many women do; and also our capacity for selfishness and for stupid, more childish, more dangerous behaviour. Women have to grow up faster; few men ever entirely do grow up.

What, by contrast, a woman can know but fewer men ever do is the feeling of being, finally, on your own in the world: all love towards you conditional and no one completely on your side. There is something — buried perhaps forgotten — buried in many male memories, towards which we may unconsciously reach for emotional security. It gives us a sense of not needing to deserve our place in the sun. It gives us a feeling that everything will be all right in the end. I suspect that for many women it is not there.

A thought, anyway, for this week's *Women in Politics* exhibition at the Commons.

Only a national referendum can stop Britain's blind drift into the folly of federation

A sleepwalker's guide to Europe

William Rees-Mogg

No white paper on the treaty has been published to this day, which would have been the proper way to inform the electorate. Maastricht has never been put to the people.

It is generally accepted on the Continent that the Maastricht treaty is a federal treaty in respect of finance. It is a major political and economic change. As one authority has put it: "Economic and monetary union would be the steps which would do more to affect ordinary people's lives than anything else on the menu in Brussels... EMU is one of those economic issues which is far too important to be ignored by citizens. It is also a political affair... Economic and monetary union — a single currency for Europe — is logically the next big step on the agenda... Clearly there are both political and economic elements to what is proposed." The authority for this view of the Maastricht treaty is Jacques Delors, and he is right.

One can look at the Maastricht treaty as federalising the work of the Treasury and the Bank of England, in the way that previous European acts federalised the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture. But of course the Treasury is far more powerful than the Board of Trade, as the prime minister's title of First Lord of the Treasury suggests. The financial function of the House of Commons, to grant or withhold supply, is at the heart of British sovereignty.

Economic and monetary union subordinates that function to a non-democratic federal system.

Another way of looking at the question is to compare the proposed European federation with other federal schemes, such as that for Canada. In 1864 the Quebec Resolutions were adopted, with a preamble which stated: "The best interests and present and future prosperity of British North America will be pro-

ceeded or endorsed by popular referendums. The Crown refused to grant Assiniboia the right to nominate peers to support the Parliament Bill until two general elections had been held in 1910. As leader of the Conservative party, Balfour proposed a referendum at the time. Ratification of Maastricht without clear public consent is the constitutional anomaly.

There are three serious reasons for opposing the Maastricht treaty. One is that its central aim — economic and monetary union with a single currency — is neither practicable nor desirable. The two great flaws are the double democratic deficit: there is no democratic control of economic and monetary union, and there is no democratic assent to the transfer of power from our democratic institutions to non-democratic institutions. These democratic deficits may prove fatal to the government, perhaps even to the European Community.

If the British were behaving as they used to do, Parliament — both Lords and Commons — would be saying something quite different to the government. It would be saying something like this: "The British people have made many contributions. The condition of the federal constitutions was that the proposal should be openly made, that the federation should be a democracy, and that the decision to federate should be democratic. That is true of Canada, of Australia, of the United States. If you want a European federation, you must tell us what it will be, and why it will be good for Britain. But above all the federal power must be democratic both in structure and in public consent. An unwieldy federation, based on bureaucracy rather than democracy, and without public consent, can only be a disaster. We will have nothing to do with it."

Since the Australian Constitution Bill was introduced by Joseph Chamberlain in 1900, it has been common for major constitutional changes to be

motivated by a Federal Union under the Crown of Great Britain, provided such union can be effected on principles just to the several Provinces. The Quebec Resolutions, on which the Canadian constitution was based, list the subjects reserved for the general parliament; of these, the first six have passed under the Treaty of Rome, or will pass under the Maastricht treaty, from Westminster to Brussels. We are making a federation in Europe, just as Canada, Australia or the United States were made into federations. That is the open intention of M. Delors, Helmut Kohl and François Mitterrand. Only

Democracy goes all ways

There is risk in the fashion for constitutional reform, says Peter Riddell

Paddy Ashdown has a rare talent for annoying his fellow MPs. It is not just his at times sanctimonious manner. He does not share either the values or the language of Westminster. He bears comparison with Ross Perot, the American anti-politics politician. And Mr Ashdown is at present — the caveat is important — by far the most popular, and also the most successful, party leader. Tonight, in an address to Charter 88, the campaign for constitutional reform, he will challenge many traditional aspects of British politics.

His speech is more than the familiar, and weighty, baggage of the constitutional reformers — a bill of rights, a reformed second chamber, regional assemblies, a freedom of information act and all the other politically correct nostrums. He supports these but goes further, offering a more populist definition of democracy.

Many long-standing ideas about how democracy operates are now in question. The challenge comes less from Europe or the Maastricht bill than from the continuation of one-party rule. The absence of the usual check of alternating parties in office has produced strains and changed attitudes. The definition of democracy dominates Labour's debate about its links with the unions. Union leaders such as Bill Morris and John Edmonds invoke democracy to defend their collective say in the party, while John Smith uses it to urge one member one vote.

Voting every few years in general elections is not sufficient to safeguard individual rights and ensure accountability. Take, for example, the far-reaching reforms under way in



public services, the creation of semi-independent executive agencies within Whitehall, and the proliferation of unelected quangos running hospitals, trusts, grant-maintained schools and training schools. To the reformers, these changes have produced a democratic deficit.

The government response in speeches by William Waldegrave and John Patten has redefined democracy. The emphasis is less on the citizen as voter than on the citizen as consumer, parent and patient. In a recent lecture, Mr Waldegrave quoted approvingly the thoughts of Madsen Pirie of the Adam Smith Institute, who is now influential in Downing Street. Dr Pirie suggested that there was no guarantee, and may not even be a sporting chance, that by periodically expressing his or her democratic decision at the ballot box, the citizen will necessarily obtain

efficient, properly accountable, responsive public services. For Mr Waldegrave, the key point is "not whether those who run our public services are elected, but whether they are producer-responsive or consumer-responsive".

There is something in this. Changing public services should improve standards much more than an occasional X on a ballot paper. But that is not nearly enough. The market definition of democracy pays insufficient account to the citizen as voter. It implicitly assumes that wise guardians of the public interest such as Mr Waldegrave will remain in office for ever; that the minister is right and does not need to be shackled by complicated legal structures. Ministers prefer a vague accountability to

Parliament, which they can usually dominate, to being subject to review by independent judges.

If the Tories are, in general, too complacent, then the supporters of reform are too apocalyptic. The government's hostility to independent political institutions and local government has exposed flaws which require specific remedies. That is not an argument for changing the whole system.

The reformers exaggerate the link between their array of proposals for a codified constitution and finding a cure for Britain's ills, whether slow growth or social divisions. Some of their ideas may be desirable, but in total, there is a danger of creating a cumbersome structure, a happy haven for the politically committed and for lawyers, but a structure that is remote from the ordinary citizen. There is, for example, a case for

reviving local government but little for introducing a new tier of regional assemblies in England.

In his Charter 88 speech tonight, Mr Ashdown will attempt to answer the charge that the reformers' proposals are too politician oriented. He wants to make them more "people oriented" by the introduction not only of obligatory referendums for important constitutional changes but also of citizens' initiatives at a local, regional and parliamentary level. For such an initiative to be held, at least 15 per cent of the relevant electorate would be required to sign a valid petition, equivalent to about 650,000 people across the country as a whole. And proposals with big spending implications would have to state how the revenue would be raised. While the Liberal Democrats see such initiatives as a device to ignore — even though no provisions are laid down for size of turnout or majority.

Mr Ashdown also believes that more direct public involvement might be a way of breaking the logjam in the sterile political debate over levels of taxation and public spending. His part-experimented in last year's election campaign with hypochondria a proposed rise in income tax to fund spending on education. That could be applied more widely, and tax and spending proposals could be made subject to citizens' initiatives.

The risk is that this approach put too much weight on citizens' desire to be involved personally in such decisions and undermines the government's responsibility to take lead. In other countries where popular initiatives have been used, such as Switzerland and America, the result has been as much to reinforce the status quo as to push forward reform. Difficult decisions such as extending VAT might be blocked.

Mr Ashdown and Mr Waldegrave differ widely in their views of democracy. What they have in common, however, is that their main thrust is outside Westminster, whether in new forms of participation or "reinvented" public services. One party rule has fuelled this challenge to parliamentary democracy.

Bad sign

ONLY days into the Christchurch-by-election campaign the Liberal Democrats, odds-on favourites, have taken a tumble at the first fence. It had seemed so appropriate, the "for sale" sign they found outside a factory on a Christchurch industrial park. They printed 40,000 leaflets showing a photograph of the sign next to the Tory election slogan: "If you vote Conservative on Thursday the recovery will continue on Friday."

Alas, the Lib Dems and their candidate Diana Maddock, who was in the picture, had not done their homework. Far from going bust the company, Distec, had expanded and moved to bigger premises.

Vincent Sutherland, who runs the firm, is not amused and the Lib Dems have been forced to issue an apology. "No slur was intended on our company," a spokesman says. Sutherland says: "This has cast me as looking bankrupt. It tends to align us with a state of decline. I shall be asking a solicitor what he thinks."



thought to have been the first Labour candidate to wear a real red rose on campaign. Hatts did not like the roses issued by the party machine. "I did not want to look like prize-winning cattle," he says. Hatts, indeed, is returning to Christchurch with a bunch of red roses for this campaign. Unfortunately for Labour, he will probably urge people to vote Liberal Democrat.

There is at least one piece of good news today for the Tories, understandably anxious about their prospects in Christchurch. Julian Davidson, alias Mr Blobby, the party's hapless candidate in Newbury, has had enough. In a letter to Newbury Tories he says: "I believe West Berkshire Conservatives must now leave firmly behind the results of May 6 and that this would be easier to achieve behind a new candidate." Rob Hayward, the candidate in Christchurch, should take note.

Prime suspects

IT'S NOT only vandals who daub graffiti on walls. Members of the film crew of *Prime Suspect Three*, starring Helen



DIARY

Mirren, are also dab hands with the paint brush, as they proved when they were filming in Hulme, one of the most rundown parts of Manchester.

The crew took one look at the four-letter words emblazoned across walls and decided to add some toned-down ones for filming. But the leaders of Manchester city council took a dim view. Val Dunn, deputy leader, says: "We spend thousands of pounds a year removing graffiti. They should not be adding to it."

Jeff Bowen, location manager, is unrepentant. "You should have seen what was there when we arrived. We had to cover up a lot of it." Might help the Olympics bid, of course.

Television detective series are not the only seekers after Manchester locations. The in-

terior of the town hall featured prominently in the opening scenes of Louis Malle's erotic film *Damage*, and has been used in Alan Bleasdale's GBH. The council is now planning to set up a film office to try to attract more big budget movies to its premises. More interesting than debates on street cleaning services.

Royal roadie

HAVING apparently secured the succession to the Chrysanthemum throne by his recent marriage, Crown Prince Naruhito is free to devote more time to his passion: English transport systems.

Not that the heir to the imperial throne is a fan of the M25 or British Rail privatisation. The prince, it seems, spends his spare time in his royal resi-

dence studying 18th-century English transport under the distant tutelage of Dr Peter Mathias, Master of Downing College, Cambridge.

Mathias, a professor of economic history, sends photocopied documents and microfilm to the imperial household for the prince to study. They have been working together since Naruhito was at Merton, Oxford, seven years ago, and Mathias, then a fellow of All Souls, was his research supervisor.

Transport first interested the prince when, as a sequestered child in Tokyo, he discovered roads. They became a link with the unknown world. So prized is the friendship that Mathias and his wife, Elizabeth, were not only guests at the royal wedding last month but were among the privileged few invited into the imperial household for a drink with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

Mathias has received a copy of the prince's latest book, his reflections on life in England. Not that he has had a chance to read it. Mathias says: "In spite of our long friendship I am afraid I still cannot speak or read Japanese."



One chap you can trust: Sheen with the Queen

Your faithful servant, Ma'am

THE loyalty of the public to the monarchy may be on the slide, but the support of former royal employees remains rock-solid. The Queen's press secretary 1978-87, Michael Sheen, has written a book called *Personal Impact*, to be published next year, which includes chapters on 11 public figures. He is quite rude about John Major and complimentary about Paddy Ashdown. Others that receive the Sheen treatment

include Sir John Harvey-Jones, Madonna and Hillary Clinton. Britain's most public figure, the Queen, is nowhere to be seen. This was despite the best efforts of Sheen's publisher, Christopher Sinclair-Stevenson. He says: "I did try to persuade him. He wouldn't. Then how about the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Edward? Any member of the royal family? He said he was sorry, but he wouldn't. He wouldn't even do David Frost [with whom Sheen once co-wrote a book]. He's far too diplomatic." No good at all.



A CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY

Why all their lordships should be in London on Wednesday

A motion requiring a referendum on the Treaty of Maastricht will come before the House of Lords on Wednesday. If Britain's greatest constitutional upheaval since the Act of Union is to be subject to a properly informed democratic process, this will be the last chance to act.

There are some 1,250 members of the House of Lords, excluding Peers of the Royal Blood and minors. Some 640 of these peers formally take a party whip. Yet government business managers assume that only about 500 members of the House of Lords will bother to cast a vote on Wednesday. If this expectation is right, the opponents of a referendum will easily prevail. An overwhelming majority of the 400-odd politically appointed life peers will follow their parties' lines against a referendum.

The whips hope that the remaining "backwoodsmen" — peers of supposedly "arbitrary judgment and unknown views on Maastricht" — will simply stay away. If they do so, they will be neglecting their historic duty. They will also be giving up their best opportunity for a century to justify the uniquely British constitutional arrangement of an unelected and largely hereditary upper house. The absence of more than half the peers on Wednesday would win new converts for the Labour Party's campaign to abolish hereditary voting rights altogether and deservedly so.

The vote on a Maastricht referendum is a classic example of how Britain should be well served by the makeup of its second parliamentary chamber. Here is a decision of clear constitutional importance, which would lead to the permanent transfer of parliamentary sovereignty.

As a member of the European Union, Britain would be required to pursue foreign, defence and economic policies made not by parliament, but by a committee of ministers meeting in camera in Brussels. The British people would become citizens of the European Union, political subjects of the Euro-

pean Council and legal subjects of the European Court. Yet Britons have never had the chance to vote on these issues. As Lord Rees-Mogg notes on the opposite page, the ratification of Maastricht was not mentioned in the last Conservative manifesto. At the time of the general election the text had not even been officially issued in Britain.

Some peers apparently fear betraying the Conservative Party by voting for a referendum. This fear is misplaced. The prime minister would be embarrassed, but no more than he was by the collapse of his economic policies last September. There would be no threat to Conservative government. On the contrary, a referendum would help heal the splits in the party and might allow the Conservatives to govern like a genuine majority party again.

Other countries have recognised the constitutional gravity of their decisions to join the new European Union by holding referendums. Germany, where the constitution forbids referendums, has found a different safeguard: Maastricht is being examined by the Constitutional Court for consistency with the democratic principles of the German constitution. Last week the German court announced that it would not reach a judgment until October or November. In Britain, by contrast, the government has said that it would use the Royal Prerogative, if necessary, to override any legal challenges to the treaty. This is a matter which should concern the country's highest legal authority, the Lords.

Britons have already been told that their membership of the European Union would be settled by a vote among the people of Denmark; soon they may be told that they can join the new Union, because it has been found sufficiently democratic to satisfy a German court. On Wednesday the unelected could rekindle the flame of democracy which the elected have found it convenient to smother. They could thereby justify their existence and protect their future.

BACK TO BAGHDAD

Military action is again required against Iraq

The United Nations Security Council has given President Saddam Hussein every opportunity to back away from his latest confrontation with UN inspectors. As usual, the Iraqi leader has mistaken patience for irresolution. Yesterday, after weeks of pretending to negotiate the non-negotiable, Iraq refused directly to let the UN Special Commission do its work. Since the end of the Gulf war, no such confrontation has resulted in military action: none of the strikes against Iraq has been directly linked to refusal to carry out security council orders. This time, retribution must be swift.

Two specific demands have been made of Iraq. The first concerns the destruction of weapons-grade chemical materials. Iraq has obstructed UN teams on the pretext that it wants to convert the chemicals into pesticides. The second, under the open-ended monitoring programme set out in security council resolution 715, involves the installation of remote-controlled cameras at two rocket-testing sites near Baghdad. The sites are used to test weapons with a range of 90 miles or less, which Iraq is still permitted under resolution 687 of April 1991, which laid down the terms of the ceasefire in the Gulf war. But they could be used in the manufacture and testing of other, prohibited, missiles. The UN suspects that Iraq has hidden 100 of these, and Washington believes there could be double that number.

Iraq has played its familiar game of cat and mouse. First, it claimed that it did not object to the cameras, but wanted to link compliance with a broad discussion at the UN on "all outstanding issues" concerning compliance with the ceasefire resolution and the maintenance of UN sanctions. This is of a piece with Iraq's claim that sanctions should be eased because it has complied with "most" of 687. This claim is without foundation. Quite aside from its repeated obstruction of the inspectors, Iraq has revived its claim to Kuwait and refused to return the Kuwaitis, many of them civilians,

whom it took prisoner during the war. The US believes that Iraq has still not disclosed all of its nuclear weapons programme. Only two days ago, Saudi Arabia reported shooting by Iraqi troops on its border, further evidence of Saddam's strategy of intimidating his neighbours and thus weakening their support for firm UN action.

Yet still the UN agreed to Iraq's request for comprehensive talks, provided it was first able to seal the equipment as an interim measure. Past experience should have suggested that this compromise would have led to fresh demands. Predictably, when the UN's inspectors arrived in Baghdad on Saturday, Iraq prevented them from sealing the sites and demanded instead that it be allowed to move the equipment. Only after the UN team departed was Iraq's true position announced: it would never accept the sealing of "activities which are not prohibited". The UN would otherwise, it claimed, close down Iraqi factories at will.

This is monstrous distortion of the facts. Iraq denounces resolution 715, which requires it to submit to monitoring, as an intrusion on its sovereignty; but it has no right, as it claims, to "reject" the resolution, nor to bargain about its implementation. The real issue is Saddam's determination to have as free a hand in reconstructing his nuclear, chemical and ballistic capability as he has proved to have, despite sanctions, in rebuilding his conventional forces. The security council must enforce the right of UN inspectors to take whatever steps they consider necessary both to destroy that capability and to prevent its reassembly. This key strategic task must not be balked. The security council has already, on June 18, formally declared Iraq to be in breach of its obligations under resolutions 687, 707 and 715. The way is clear for enforcement. Under international law, no further warning from the security council is required. If Saddam will not allow these sites to be disabled they must, without delay, be destroyed.

DEGREES OF DIFFERENCE

University entrance standards are an important indicator

New figures have been published by the Universities Central Council on Admissions showing average entrance requirements by subject. When these are scoured by sixth formers planning college applications next term, aspiring doctors and vets will be depressed to learn that competition for a university place in their chosen subjects is getting stiffer, as it is in the humanities, social sciences and languages. Prospective architects and mathematicians will be cheered that the hurdles to admission are slightly lower than they were in 1987.

Because average entrance requirements indicate the strength of competition for places, they are a useful guide to the changing academic tastes of the nation's school-leavers. Medical, dental and veterinary departments can still demand the highest A level grades from applicants, while the intellectual calibre of candidates for language courses has risen considerably, as European trade has advanced. English, as European trade has advanced, has not lost their appeal to students, allowing faculties to push up entrance requirements. In contrast, the best sixth formers are

apparently less attracted to business and commerce courses than they were six years ago. The rapid growth of such subjects was a by-product of the mid-1980s boom. Now, the recession and the paucity of courses on offer have driven the best applicants away. Though the number of students entering business courses increased from 3,600 in 1987 to 4,800 in 1991, the average standard of entrants has dropped markedly.

More alarming is the decline of entrance standards in engineering over the same period. In spite of efforts to put technology and science at the heart of the national curriculum, schools have yet to make the necessary leap of faith which will encourage the best pupils to apply for engineering degree courses. School inspectors have complained that technology teaching in the classroom remains unsatisfactory: vocational courses are still treated by many teachers and employers as second-rate, encouraging a general wariness among ambitious pupils of the applied sciences. The potential cost of this to the economy is a matter which Sir Ron Dearing's review of the national curriculum should address.

Society, the single parent and the moral dilemma

From the Archbishop of York

Sir, Single-parent families exist for a variety of reasons which have quite different moral connotations (report, July 9). Most are not single parents by choice but by misfortune, whether by death, divorce or desertion. To blame and penalise such families would be grossly unfair.

Some find themselves as single parents through the fecklessness of their partners. It is those partners who run away from their responsibilities, created through what may have been an irresponsible sexual adventure, who need to be faced with the consequences of their actions, rather than the victims being penalised. But the practical difficulties of doing so are enormous.

A small number of single women deliberately choose to have children for reasons largely connected with feelings of self-worth, the need to mobilise social help around themselves, fear or hatred of men, and so forth. It is this group which raises the largest moral questions, and which offends against normal moral assumptions about the responsibilities of parenting.

I have myself criticised this third group in the past, and will do so again, on the ground that deliberately to choose single parenthood is to deprive children of the possibility of learning through being part of a mature adult relationship. The fact that many are thus deprived as a result of misfortune is no excuse for depriving others deliberately.

Nevertheless even with this group — though it is important in my view that social opinion should not support their actions morally — it would be unfair to penalise them financially, and in any case impossible to identify them with any certainty.

In terms of public policy, therefore, we find ourselves caught between a

desire to draw some moral lines, and the desire to meet the needs of those who may have overstepped the lines but who nonetheless still need support and care. More honest and open discussion — especially through the media — of where the moral lines should be drawn would help to create a healthier moral environment.

The widespread assumption that family life is a purely personal matter needs to be challenged. The churches have their part to play in this by upholding the Christian ideal of permanent, loving and responsible relationships, and by trying to educate people towards them.

But public policy also needs to take account of the confusing interaction between seemingly unrelated government decisions, many of which may bear directly or indirectly on sexual and family relationships. There appears to be a lack of coordination between government departments, with the result that the long-term effects of styles of sex education in schools, Aids prevention, social welfare policies, fiscal policies, legislation about the family, housing policies, etc. may work in opposite directions.

Has the time come to revive some kind of central policy unit to draw these threads together? The problems are not going to be solved by just tinkering with social welfare.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN EBOR,
Bishop of Exeter, York.

From Mr Sean Robertson

Sir, The suggestion by Tom Sackville, a junior health minister, that to bring up a child on one's own could be "an appalling and fairly sad experience" (report, July 8) is not as appalling as having to listen to ministers passing moralistic judgment on facets of life

which they happen to disagree with.

I, my sister and brother, were brought up by my mother in a one-parent household. My mother worked during the day whilst we were at school and again in the evening when my grandmother would stay with us. We did not have much money but by careful budgeting my mother ensured that we did not go without the basics. We had her undivided love and affection, something I see lacking in a good number of so-called "nuclear" families.

From an early age we all helped my mother around the house and in the budgeting for the value of money and the need to work for one's living.

My sister and I are both now employed in middle management and my brother is a clergyman. I am proud of my mother for giving up so much to provide us with a firm foundation for life.

Yours truly,
S. ROBERTSON,
86 Bywater Place, Rotherhithe, SE16.
July 8.

From Mr J. A. Webb

Sir, How hypocritical of Tom Sackville to call on the churches' help for a return to old-fashioned family values and the creation of a more stable environment for the nation's children.

Every time the Archbishop of Canterbury suggests that the Tory party alters its policies, so that they are more in line with Christian thinking, he is reprimanded. It is only the government of the day that can create the environment that Mr Sackville is seeking.

Yours sincerely,
J. A. WEBB,
8 Fonthill Way,
Bristol, Bristol, Avon.
July 8.

Open and honest sex education in school and home

From Ms Suzie Hayman and others

Sir, As problem-page editors we receive thousands of letters from parents and young people which testify to the need for open, honest and accessible sex education in schools.

We are therefore disturbed to see that an amendment to the Education Bill, due, we understand, to be discussed in the Commons on July 19, will give parents the right to withdraw pupils from sex education and further reduce already inadequate coverage by removing all references to sexual infections, including HIV, from the curriculum.

These changes pander to a small but vocal minority and will unfairly disadvantage those young people who most need help in this area. The vast majority of parents welcome, and young people want, sex education in schools.

Children need sex education to give them the knowledge and self-confidence to make their own informed and sensible choices about their lives and their health. If this government wants to uphold family values and

prevent premature sexual experimentation among young people it should look to The Netherlands, where a far more open attitude and good sex education do not lead to teenagers starting their sex lives any earlier than our own but result in a teenage pregnancy rate one seventh of ours.

How can the reductions in sexual infection and teenage pregnancy set out in "The Health of the Nation" be met if one government department works against another in this way?

Yours etc.
SUZIE HAYMAN (Woman's Own),
GILL COX (Woman's Realm),
NICK FISHER (Just 17),
VIRGINIA IRONSIDE (Today),
TRICIA KREITMAN (Miz),
ANNE LOVELL (Bell),
MARIE PROOBS (Daily Mirror),
CLAIRE RAYNER (BBC TV),
DEIDRE SANDERS (The Sun),
CHRISTINE WEBBER (Daily Star),
Low Butterfield, New Hutton,
Kendal, Cumbria.
July 9.

Geography quiz

From Mr R. A. Walford

Sir, Your piece in the Diary (July 5) poking fun at an inaccurate answer in the International Geography Olympiad held at the Royal Geographical Society is itself in error. The Americans who could not identify a "fast-breeder" Doumer were not "scientists" but schoolboys of 13 and 14 years of age.

The feature of this inaugural competition was the extent and quality of geographical knowledge shown by the teams competing. British and Russian, as well as American. However, in a time when the media hunt for horror stories about education, a host of right answers to tough questions presumably carries less news-worthiness (unless Martyn Lewis is the quizmaster).

Yours sincerely,
R. A. WALFORD,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Education,
17 Trumpington Street, Cambridge.

A name with fizz

From Mr Owen Kelly

Sir, Might Thorncroft Vineyard, which defended an action in the Court of Appeal, and lost (letters, July 6), have been successful had it named its product "elderflower champagne"?

Yours faithfully,
OWEN KELLY,
131 High Street,
Teddington, Middlesex.
July 7.

From Mr Stephen Flook

Sir, The making of elderflower champagne is described in "Home-made Wines, Syrups and Cordials", published in 1954 by the National Federation of Women's Institutes. No doubt the name had been in use long before that and long may it continue.

Yours faithfully,
S. A. FLOOK,
Court Lane Vineyard, Ropley,
Alresford, Hampshire.
July 6.

Business letters, page 34

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Plainly speaking on the airwaves

From Mr Adrian Williams

Sir, On two successive days (July 5 and 6) your reporters on the BBC's new style guide have seemed to be under the impression that there is something wrong in starting sentences with "and" or "but".

There is no authoritative argument based on principles of grammar to support this view. No one has ever offered me a reason more convincing than the assertion that "my English teacher told me it was wrong". Fowler says: "That it is a solecism to begin a sentence with 'and' or 'but' is a faintly lingering superstition. The OED gives examples ranging from the 10th to the 19th c; the Bible is full of them." On July 5 and 6, your leader column carried no fewer than eight instances (three of them above the third leader on July 5, "BBC English").

May we not kill off this superstition?

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN WILLIAMS
(Director), Corvus Catena,
28 Trinity Street,
St Ebbs, Oxford.
July 6.

From Mr Christopher Read

Sir, With your leader about the BBC style guide fresh in my mind, I noticed on a London bus the rewarding of a traditional mandatory notice. Passengers are now classified as "seated" or "standees", but there was no conductor to cry: "Move along the car please — room for standees only."

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER READ,
124 Hampton Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
July 6.

From Canon David Welander

Sir, Can we wait for the improvement in "BBC English" to have its effect on the rest of us? In particular could copies of the style guide not be sent to all politicians, teachers, clergy, etc. as a matter of urgency? Then for a start we might be delivered from the word "absolutely", used monotonously and without regard to its meaning. I am (absolutely) sure you would agree.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WELANDER,
Willow Cottage, 1 Sandpits Lane,
Sherston, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.
July 5.

From Dr Wilfrid E. Hunt

Sir, It is to be hoped that the BBC's style guide will succeed in eliminating the frequent references by broadcasters to the "HIV virus", revealing as they do a deplorable ignorance of the actual meaning of the initial letters. It would seem that this practice is beginning to spread: I recently heard a speaker on the radio refer to the "RAC club".

What, I wonder, will we have next: the "EMF fund", "FIMS ship", or perhaps even the "BBC corporation"?

Yours faithfully,
WILFRID E. HUNT,
49 High Street,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.
July 8.

From Dr A. F. Ollerenshaw

Sir, Hopefully the publication of the style guide will lead to a sea change in the use of clichés by reporters.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. OLLERENSHAW,
52 Lightfoot Lane,
Preston, Lancashire.
July 5.

From Mr Robert W. Moss

Sir, I hope the guide also denounces use of the phrase "What a goal!"

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT W. MOSS,
17 Farmcote Close, Eastcombe,
Stroud, Gloucestershire.
July 6.

Oh, Mr Porter

From Dr Roy Davies

Sir, It used to be possible to travel from London to Llandrindod Wells, with one change and a relatively brief wait at Shrewsbury, in under four hours. An alternative was to travel direct to Hereford with onward transport being provided by a spouse or relative. This evening, after over one hour on the telephone commencing at 2145 hours, I have ascertained that:

1. Travel direct via Shrewsbury is impossible without changes and lengthy waits at Birmingham and Shrewsbury.
2. I can go via Crewe, which seems awfully far north to go south.
3. I can go via Swansea, which seems awfully far west to go east.
4. I can only get to Hereford via Newport.

Those in possession of railway maps may be able to explain to me these paradoxes, but my feelings are perhaps best summarised by G. K. Chesterton: "The night we went to Glastonbury by way of Goodwin Sands."

Yours faithfully,
ROY DAVIES,
19 Wimpole Street, W1.
July 6.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

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Yours faithfully,
COLIN LEGUM,
Wild Acre, Plaw Hatch,
Nr Sharpthorne, West Sussex.

NEWS

Allies prepare to attack Saddam

The United States and its allies, saying that Saddam Hussein "cannot trifle with the world", were moving last night towards an attack on two Iraqi missile sites after a United Nations inspection team was prevented from sealing them off.

Vice President Gore said: "We are engaged in discussions with others who are a party to this whole matter." British officials confirmed an urgent evaluation of Saddam's latest display of brinkmanship was under way. Pages 1, 10

Smith warns the unions

With the civil war within the Labour party reaching a new level of ferocity, John Smith will warn his critics today that they are risking a fifth electoral defeat for the Labour party if they continue to block his one member one vote reforms. He issued an "I will not be moved" message to unions. Page 1

Women avoid politics

Three out of four women remain uninvolved in political activities, according to a MORI poll at the start of what has been designated "women into politics week". Among women aged between 18 and 24, the figure rises to 82 per cent. Page 1

Tory agents 'sacked'

The Tory party organisation is in danger of collapsing in key marginal seats, with many constituency associations on the brink of bankruptcy. A huge drop in donations and falling membership has led to full-time party agents being laid off by local associations to try to stave off financial ruin. Page 2

Scott enquiry fear

There is growing concern that Lord Justice Scott's judicial enquiry into government complicity in arms-related exports to Iraq has lost its way in Whitehall's bureaucratic undergrowth. Page 4

Smuggling gangs

Syndicates of cross-Channel bootleggers, formed to exploit the abolition of European fiscal frontiers on January 1, may have boosted excise duty evasion to more than £5 million. Customs officials believe that up to half a dozen gangs of smugglers are cashing in. Page 3

University entrance

Winning a university place became slightly easier in the past academic year, the first time since 1986 that average A-level scores for new entrants had dropped.

Trial for bareheaded judges

Senior judges are to experiment with bareheaded justice. Despite an overwhelming verdict from the majority of the legal profession and the public that wigs should stay, senior judges are to shed their 18th century headgear for a short trial period, probably in the autumn. The experiment will affect only judges in the Court of Appeal and the commercial court. Page 1

according to the latest statistics. Page 5

Towering success

Welders and engineers with 20 years' experience of Tower Bridge are marvelling afresh at the intricate workmanship of their 19th century predecessors, as they discover wedges and rivets in such good condition that they can be recycled. Page 5

Chat-show challenger

Blue-ribose ladies, businessmen in golf shirts and spotted students listened to a television chat-show star perched on a bus, waving white gloves and with a pink rosette exploding from his lapel. Tsutomu Hata, champion of Japanese political reform, aims to end the Liberal Democratic Party's 38-year rule. Page 9

Paper flowers

While politicians scour the ground for green shoots of economic recovery, one small business has burst into full and radiant bloom. The flowers may be only paper but they have blossomed with the help of that enthusiastic organic gardener, the Prince of Wales. Page 3

Strain of reform

The former Soviet Union's three Slav powers — Russia, Ukraine and Belarusia — unveiled plans for an economic pact. The move effectively acknowledges the failure of the Commonwealth of Independent States to co-ordinate reform among its ten member states. Page 8



Street violence: a runner wearing the traditional red sash being gored yesterday during the bull running in Pamplona, Spain. Another man was gored and a third received serious head injuries when trampled in a crowd swelled by weekend visitors.

Motor racing: Alain Prost wins

British Grand Prix at Silverstone for the fifth time and extended his lead in the world drivers' championship to 20 points. Britain's Damon Hill led for 40 laps until his Renault engine blew up. Page 19

Cricket: Alan Lee assesses the Benson and Hedges Cup final

between Lancashire and Derbyshire. "Aggression is a sporting virtue only when properly channelled." Page 21

Cycling: The American Lance Armstrong

tasted his first moment of glory on the Tour de France when he won the eighth stage from Châlons-sur-Marne, Belgium's Johan Museeuw retained the race leader's yellow jersey. Page 24

Under scrutiny: A new enforcement agency

is to be set up in the wake of a series of share-price shumps days before profit warnings were issued. Page 36

Pay bonuses: Up to £35 million

is to be shared by three directors of Cray Electronics for helping to rescue the company. Meanwhile employees in profit-related pay schemes are to share £400 million in tax relief. Page 34

City party time: St James's Square

was recently packed with 1,000 guests, mostly bankers. They may be grateful to be included, but for firm's sake should not discuss business until they are about to leave. Page 34

Suffragette failure: "Everyone

thinks it was the suffragettes who got women the vote. You need only glance at the Representation of the People Act of 1918 to see what a myth this is." Brian Harrison on why suffragettes failed. Page 12

Something will turn up: Since

becoming the editor of a men's magazine, Kathryn Flett has been on a crash course in the subtle art of reinventing the trouser. Page 13

Spelling quiz: "It was a good idea

to tell the National Curriculum Council to pay more attention to vocabulary. The puzzle is why it needed to be told." Page 31

Popular pursuits: What do

Eldorado, Madonna's underwear and Larry Grayson have in common? They are subjects of academic theses. Is popular culture worth such weighty consideration? Page 27

Happy union: Cimarosa wrote his

opera *The Secret Marriage* in 1792. Jonathan Miller's new production at Cheltenham is sheer delight, writes Rodney Milnes. Page 27

Sharp words: The writing of R. K.

Narayan has often been described as charming. Beware his latest book, *The Grandmother's Tale*, proves he is too acute to be cute, says Victoria Glendinning. Page 29

Timothy Spall, in the comedy drama *Frank Stubbs Promotes*, is a ticket tout who turns promoter and runs into the trouble with an unknown singer (ITV, 9pm). Page 35

Back to Baghdad

Yesterday, after weeks of pretending to negotiate the non-negotiable, Iraq refused directly to let the UN Special Commission do its work. Retribution must be swift. Page 15

A constitutional duty

A motion requiring a referendum on the Treaty of Maastricht will come before the House of Lords on Wednesday. If Great Britain's greatest constitutional upheaval since the Act of Union is to be subject to properly informed democratic process, this will be the last chance to act. Page 15

Degrees of difference

The universities' average entrance requirements indicating the strength of competition for places are a useful guide to the changing academic tastes of the nation's school-leavers. Page 15

WILLIAM RESS-MOGG

One can look at the Maastricht treaty as federalising the work of the Treasury and the Bank of England, in the way that previous European acts federalised the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture. But, of course, the Treasury is far more powerful than the Board of Trade. Page 14

PETER RIDDELL

Many long-standing ideas about how democracy operates are now in question. The challenge comes less from Europe or the Maastricht bill than from the continuation of one-party rule. The absence of the usual check of alternating parties in office has produced strains and changed attitudes. Page 14

The Archbishop of York and editors of problem pages are among those writing about one-party families and sex education. Page 15

President Clinton contributed more than his share of the energy and sense of purpose that rescued the G7 summit on tariffs. As usual, this accomplishment did not have a chance to be credited to him before the inevitable group of White House aides were clamorously taking large credit. *The Washington Post*

THE TIMES TOMORROW

The death of Mrs Beeton

"A much more curious lacuna in the Missing Persons was Mrs Beeton. Looking her up in this volume, I discovered the astonishing fact that she had died at the age of 28." Bernard Levin on the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

Politics in the wings

The August coup of 1991 may be the story behind *Misha's Party*, but this new Russian theatrical co-production is anything but political.

Judgment on justice

Sir Frederick Lawson delivers his verdict on the Royal Commission Report on Criminal Justice.



John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, has warned the Labour leader John Smith: "Loyalty has its limits." Page 1

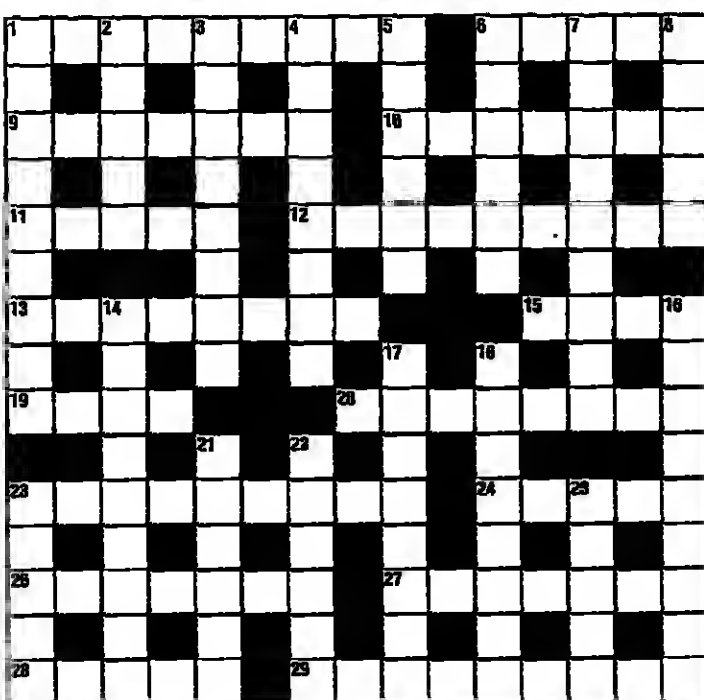


The Archbishop of Canterbury condemned parishes opposed to women priests that are withholding their levies towards clergy salaries. Page 4



Sir Leon Brittan is to receive the public backing of John Major as the new president of the European Commission after Jacques Delors. Page 1

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,280



- ACROSS
- Return of copies considered — but not all together (9).
 - There's conflict about the right to net small fish (5).
 - An individual making one cross, though never in public (7).
 - Decline a prize (7).
 - Many object to the same thing (5).
 - Carrying on without stress (9).
 - Stay in play (8).
 - Miss the inexperienced driver, a fool (4).
 - Desire for a catalogue? (4).
 - Dog the French supporter — stick around (8).
 - The tread's in bad condition, all split (9).
 - Runs in the early morning looking far from well (5).
 - It's topping for the viewer! (7).
- DOWN
- The plant rush comes with spring (9).
 - The little page working late gets double (5).
 - It's helping a student to be intelligent (8).
 - Floods causing rock fractures (8).
 - Note land shortage (6).
 - Coast in a city street (6).
 - Upbraiding a salesman and keeping the edge (9).
 - Fit heavyweight trains inside (3,2).
 - Will set up a home of sorts without a male (9).
 - Find a way to phone before ten anyway, hard as it may be (9).
 - Giving pounds and pounds, or a large figure, for a letter (8).
 - Unorthodox director — one's obliged to him (8).
 - Formality in leading place of worship (6).
 - Storage space required by a designer (6).
 - The nap of skins made to stand up (5).
 - A girl from Milan — Italian of course (5).



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,279 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationary rack.

Concise Crossword, page 36

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
West of London	702
East of London	703
West Midlands	704
East Midlands	705
West of England	706
East of England	707
West of Scotland	708
East of Scotland	709
West of Ireland	710
East of Ireland	711
West of Africa	712
East of Africa	713
West of Asia	714
East of Asia	715
West of Europe	716
East of Europe	717
West of North America	718
East of North America	719
West of South America	720
East of South America	721
West of Oceania	722
East of Oceania	723
West of Antarctica	724
East of Antarctica	725

Weathercall is charged at 35p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Carlisle T	734
M-ways/roads Carlisle T-M23	735
M-ways/roads M23-M4	736
M25 London Orbital only	737
National traffic and roadworks	738
National motorways	739
West Country	740
Wales	741
Midlands	742
East of England	743
North-west England	744
North-east England	745
Scotland	746
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THE TIMES

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MONDAY JULY 12 1993

Prost gains hollow fiftieth grand prix victory after team-mate's engine failure at Silverstone

Hill's hopes vanish in a puff of smoke

By OLIVER HOIT
MOTOR RACING
CORRESPONDENT

THE British grand prix curse that hovered over Graham Hill was visited upon his son yesterday at Silverstone. Seventeen times his father tried and failed to win his home grand prix and yesterday, when Damon was on the point of victory, engine failure denied him and allowed his Williams-Renault team-mate, Alain Prost, to write another chapter in the motor racing history books he dominates.

A puff of smoke belched from Hill's car to signal the stifling of the dreams of glory welling inside him. The failure of the machine, not the man, ruined his chance of emerging from the shadow of Nigel Mansell, and handed an historic fiftieth Formula One victory to Prost.

The Frenchman, who extended his lead in the drivers' championship over Ayrton Senna to 20 points, admitted that Hill, who led the race from the start until he was forced to retire 17 laps from the end of the 59-lap contest, deserved to win.

"I think it would have been difficult for me to overtake him," he said. "I was looking for a way past but, every time I got near, my tyres lost grip. I think I would have settled for second place."

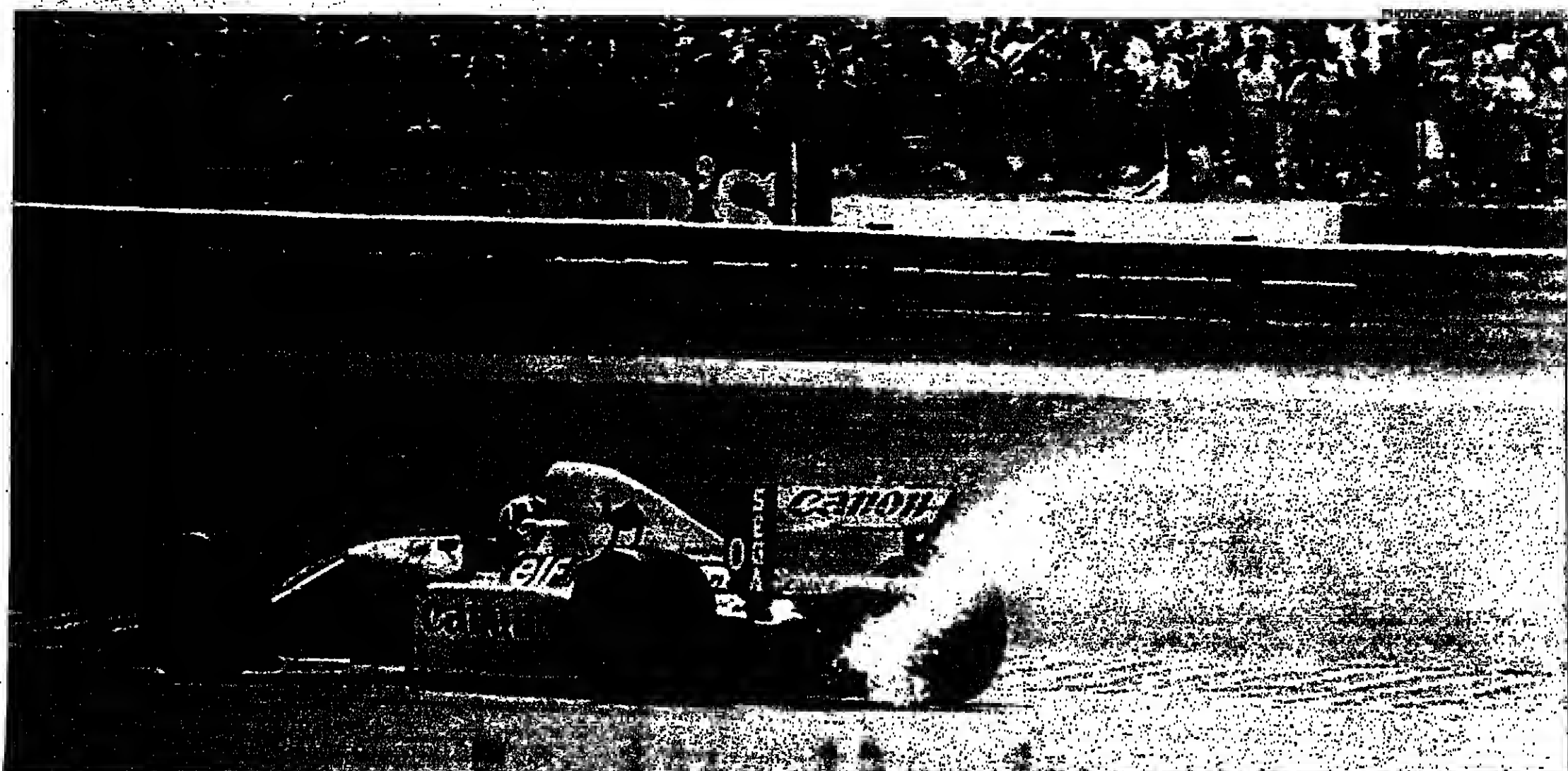
Prost, who equalled Jim Clark's record of five British grand prix victories with his win, finished more than seven seconds ahead of Michael Schumacher's Benetton-Ford, acknowledging his win with a half-hearted wave to the subdued grandstand.

It was a far cry from the hysterical scenes that greeted Mansell's victory at the circuit last year. "It wasn't the way I wanted to win my fiftieth race," Prost said. "I feel sorry for the crowds, sorry for Damon. But that's racing."

Hill, who had again beaten the three times world champion to the first corner even though Prost was starting from his eighth pole position of the season, sought consolation in a pint of beer in the British Racing Drivers' Club on his long walk back to the pits, as Prost sprayed champagne on the podium.

"My whole world turned upside down when that engine blew," Hill said. "It is so frustrating. I gave absolutely everything. I did everything right and then something happens to spoil it which is out of your control. It leaves you feeling empty."

Of the five British drivers who lined up among the fastest ten qualifiers on the grid for the 44th running of this race, not one finished in the top three. Johnny Herbert, who has had a miserable time of late in his Lotus, finished fourth after a thrilling tussle with Riccardo Patrese's Benetton and Derek Warwick, who claimed his first richly-deserved point of the season with an excellent sixth place in his Footwork.



Shattered dream: Hill, having led from the start of the British grand prix at Silverstone yesterday, is helpless as his Williams-Renault's engine blows up in flames with 17 laps to go

It was their misfortune that the dominant feeling of the race was one of crushing disappointment for Hill. In a weekend when his credentials, his talent, his fitness to drive for Williams, have come under intense scrutiny, he gave his most convincing display of the season.

After he beat Prost at the start, the Frenchman was held up in a duel with Senna, who had slipped into second place. Every time Prost pulled out to overtake him, Senna blocked him, cutting across him time

World championship
DRIVERS: 1. A Prost (Fr), 57pts; 2. A Senna (Br), 47; 3. M Schumacher (Ger), 30; 4. D Hill (GB), 28; equal 5. R Patrese (It), 27; Jackie Stewart (GB), 25; 6. M Brundle (GB), 9; equal 8. J J Lehto (Fin), C Pignatelli (Sp) and G Berger (Austria), 8; 12. J Alesi (Fr), 4; 13. M Andretti (US), 3; equal 14. P Alliot (Fr) and F Barbazza (It), 2; equal 16. K Wendlinger (Austria), A Zanardi (It) and O Wawak (GB), 1.

and time again in his McLaren-Ford as they raced into corners. Asked if the duel had exceeded what he considered the limits of safety, Prost said: "I was worried for myself, but there is no point in commiserating further."

When he finally sneaked past the Brazilian on the seventh lap, Hill was eight seconds ahead. Prost chipped away at the Englishman's lead and after both had stopped to change tyres, he had whittled it down to two seconds. Hill defended himself well,

so well that it was obvious he had been freed from the restriction of team orders which had led him to pull over meekly in the Spanish and Canadian grands prix when similarly well positioned.

By the 37th lap, the Frenchman was on Hill's tail, but their tussle was interrupted when the pace car was brought out for only the second time this season while the wreckage of Luca Badoer's BMS Lola was cleared from the track.

When the race restarted a lap and a half later with an IndyCar-style rolling start, Hill set a new lap record to put himself over a second ahead of his rival. "There were only about 20 laps to go at that stage," Hill said, "and I was determined that they were going to be the best 20 laps of my life." Two laps later, his hopes were dashed.

Prost slowed, worried that the same problem that had afflicted Hill might affect him, too, and he hinted that Hill might have over-driven the car. "I saw his problem and I wondered if he was pulling more revs," Prost said. "I slowed and Michael began to catch me."

Schumacher closed the gap to four seconds before Prost pulled away again, but the German has now moved into third place in the championship above Hill.

"I am closing in on Senna now," Schumacher said. "I had brief hopes of victory

when I thought Alain might have developed a problem after Damon had gone. But after I closed up, he was able to push a little bit harder."

Schumacher closed the gap to four seconds at one stage before Prost pulled away again, leaving attention focussed on a breathtaking battle for fourth place between Martin Brundle's Ligier, Patrese and Herbert.

As Patrese tried to move ahead of Brundle in fourth place, weaving inside and outside him, Herbert cheekily tried to overtake them both in one move.

"It was pretty wild," Patrese said. Just when the contest was reaching boiling point, Brundle was forced to retire on the 55th lap and try as he might, Herbert could not catch Patrese. "I am pleased to be the top Brit," Herbert said, "but disappointed to miss out on the podium again."

Warwick sneaked into sixth place because of Brundle's gearbox problem and Senna was relegated to fifth when he ran out of fuel. Still, the sympathy was reserved for one man.

"It was nice to hear the crowd cheering for me when I was walking back to the pits," Hill said. "But they were cheers of consolation and that was not nearly as good as the cheers of congratulation that could have been mine."

Photograph, page 1
Williams threat, page 22



Champagne shampoo: Prost celebrates in style

Another dull day as Prost reaches fifty not out

The power of wishful thinking was submerged by weight of statistics at Silverstone yesterday. To put it another way, Alain Prost, in his thirteenth season of Formula One, won his fiftieth grand prix. Damon Hill, in his first, failed to break his duck. For 41 laps, the Englishman led his team-mate a merry dance only to explode in a puff of smoke on the 42nd, leaving 70,000 glum faces reflecting on the miseries of life after Mansell and measuring the emptiness by the hand in their pocket.

Mansell used to be worth every penny of the entrance fee. Watching Prost lap in near splendid isolation for his sixth victory of the year is a taste many would rather not pay £57 to acquire. A little like watching Geoff Boycott compile a century or Jim Courier hit a tennis ball.

But that was always the way with the Frenchman.

Ever since he came a steady shod in his first grand prix 13 years ago, Prost, now 38, has elevated caution to an art form. Nothing is done without instant weighing up of danger and gain. Victory is earned not with a wave or a smile but with a furrowed brow. If a pocket calculator could speak, it would sound like Prost.

"I just wanted to be careful. I didn't want to take a lot of risks," he said. "It is the language of the Sunday afternoon driver, frightened to venture on to the motorway. Yet if Prost lacks the flamboyance to enter the language of the traffic cop—'Who do you think you are?'—his name is carved in the stone tablets of grand prix history as the most successful Sunday afternoon driver of them all. Like Jackie Stewart before him, Prost views motor racing as a business not a game. Unlike Stewart, who

Andrew Longmore witnesses a victorious yet unspectacular display from the French master

produced a memorable drive at Monza to win his third and final world title in 1973, Prost will be remembered for the quantity of his victories rather than the special quality of any one of them. A dashing drive from the back of the grid is just not Prost's style.

MOST GP WINS

50: Alain Prost (Fr)
39: Ayrton Senna (Br)
30: Nigel Mansell (GB)
27: Jackie Stewart (GB)
25: Jim Clark (GB)
25: Niki Lauda (Austria)
24: Juan Manuel Fangio (Arg)
23: Nelson Piquet (Br)
18: Stirling Moss (GB)
14: Jack Brabham (Aus)
14: Emerson Fittipaldi (Br)
14: Graham Hill (GB)
13: Alberto Ascari (It)

The problem, though, for the bosses of the Formula One circus is that Prost's great strength is the sport's main weakness. Off the track, Prost has made it his profession to be in the right car at the right time. He will not risk his life for less than the best. On it, he has distilled the thrill out of the most dangerous of sports by a brand of calculated risk-taking that commands respect not affection, even in his own country, and wrings emotion from every race. Long before the end of the British grand prix yesterday, the crowd were heading for the exits.

Ever the diplomat, Prost sympathised with their dis-

appointment. "I am sorry for them and for Damon because I think he deserved to win, especially here at home," he said. "He has done well all weekend. I would have preferred to win in different circumstances but there is nothing I can do."

Prost's wariness, though, should not be mistaken for lack of courage. When he has to, he can mix it with the best, as Senna found out in the opening laps. Left standing at the start as usual, Prost found himself not just behind Hill but, horror of horrors, behind his most dangerous foe.

As Prost pressed, Senna held his line, almost chopping the front end off the Williams, a savage reminder of accidents past but not forgotten and of the unpredictability that made Senna public enemy No 1 in Prost's

orderly life. But Prost would not be deterred and was soon through. "It was very difficult and very dangerous," he said. "But I don't want to comment about that."

Nor will we ever know whether team orders would have taken precedence over patriotism and decent sport to allow Prost his fiftieth victory at Hill's expense. Just as his team captain was filling his rearview mirrors, Hill was left disconsolately at the side of the road. "It would have been very difficult to pass," Prost said. "I wanted to wait for the end and find the right opportunity."

Once again, luck erred on the side of caution and, with Hill's retirement, went the last chance for the Silverstone faithful to vent their feelings. After that, as Michael Schumacher so aptly put it: "Alain seemed to have everything under control."

RESULTS: 1. A Prost (Fr), Williams Renault, 1hr 23min 38.18sec (134.255mph); 2. M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton Ford, at 7.68sec; 3. R Patrese (It), Benetton Ford, at 1min 17.42sec; 4. J Herbert (GB), Lotus Ford, at 1:18.407; 5. A Senna (Br), McLaren Ford, at 1:19.5; 6. O Wawak (GB), Footwork Mugen-Honda, at 1:17; 7. M Brundle (GB), Ligier Renault, at 1:18; 8. J J Lehto (Fin), Sauber, at 1:18.1; 9. F Barbazza (It), Lotus Ford, at 1:19.1; 10. R Patrese (It), Benetton Ford, at 1:19.1; 11. P Alliot (Fr), Larousse Larousse, at 2:12.4; 12. C Pignatelli (Sp), at 2:13.1; 13. J Karyama (Japan), Tyrrell Yamaha, at 4:14; 14. M Brundle (GB), Upper Renault, at 4:14; 15. K Wendlinger (Austria), at 4:14; 16. A Zanardi (It), at 4:14; 17. A Zanardi (It), Lotus Ford, at 4:15; 18. J Badoer (It), Jordan Hart, at 4:19; 19. L Badoer (It), BMS Lola Ferrari, at 4:20; 20. P Martin (Fr), Renault, at 4:21; 21. K Wendlinger (Austria), Sauber, at 4:22; 22. G Berger (Austria), Ferrari, at 4:23; 23. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 24. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 25. Badoer, at 4:23; 26. M Brundle (It), Lola, at 4:23; 27. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 28. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 29. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 30. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 31. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 32. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 33. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 34. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 35. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 36. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 37. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 38. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 39. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 40. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 41. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 42. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 43. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 44. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 45. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 46. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 47. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 48. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 49. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23; 50. A Zanardi (Japan), at 4:23.

complete 1 lap; E Comas (Fr), Larousse Renault, failed to start.
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Constructors: 1. Williams-Renault, 55; 2. McLaren, 50; 3. Benetton, 38; 4. Ligier Renault, 15; 5. Lotus, 10; 6. Ferrari, 7; 7. Minardi, 7; 8. Sauber, 6; 9. Larousse Renault, 2; 10. Footwork Mugen-Honda.
QUALIFYING TIMES: 1. Prost, 1min 19.00sec (134.255mph); 2. Hill, 1:19.124; 3. Schumacher, 1:20.401; 4. Senna, 1:21.088; 5. Patrese, 1:22.264; 6. Brundle, 1:22.421; 7. Herbert, 1:22.457; 8. Wawak, 1:22.854; 9. Brundle, 1:22.895; 10. Suzuki, 1:23.077; 11. Andretti, 1:23.114; 12. Alesi, 1:23.233; 13. Berger, 1:23.252; 14. Zanardi, 1:23.252; 15. Benetton, 1:23.635; 16. Lehto, 1:24.071; 17. Comas, 1:24.189; 18. Wendlinger, 1:24.555; 19. Pignatelli, 1:24.554; 20. Martin, 1:24.718; 21. de Cesaris, 1:25.254; 22. Karyama, 1:25.542; 23. Badoer, 1:25.563; 24. Alliot, 1:25.597; 25. Badoer, 1:25.598; 26. Alesi, 1:25.597; 27. Badoer, 1:25.598; 28. Alesi, 1:25.597; 29. Badoer, 1:25.598; 30. Alesi, 1:25.597; 31. Badoer, 1:25.598; 32. Alesi, 1:25.597; 33. Badoer, 1:25.598; 34. Alesi, 1:25.597; 35. Badoer, 1:25.598; 36. Alesi, 1:25.597; 37. Badoer, 1:25.598; 38. Alesi, 1:25.597; 39. Badoer, 1:25.598; 40. Alesi, 1:25.597; 41. Badoer, 1:25.598; 42. Alesi, 1:25.597; 43. Badoer, 1:25.598; 44. Alesi, 1:25.597; 45. Badoer, 1:25.598; 46. Alesi, 1:25.597; 47. Badoer, 1:25.598; 48. Alesi, 1:25.597; 49. Badoer, 1:25.598; 50. Alesi, 1:25.597.

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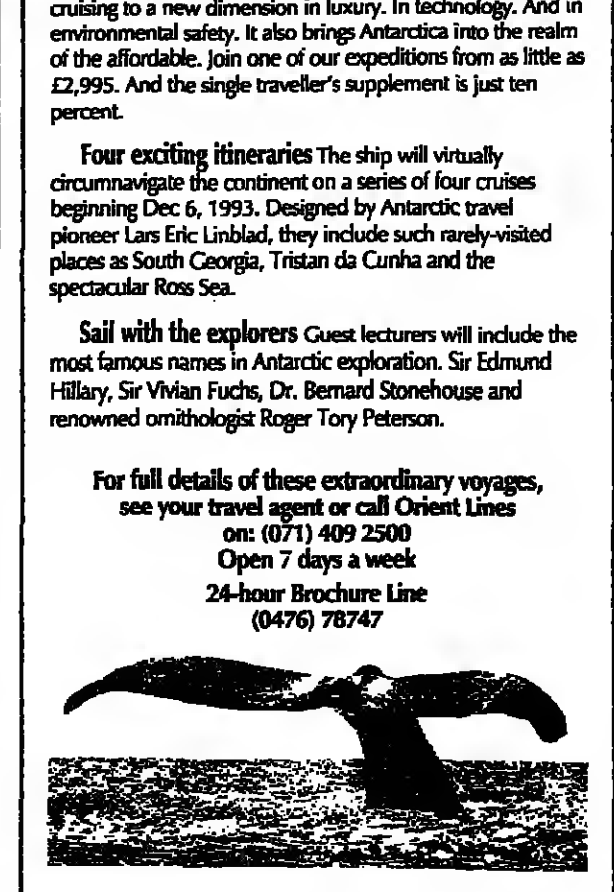
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"me behind a rope," he told World Cup finals

SPORT IN BRIEF

In-form Boardman earns team success

CHRIS Boardman, whose cycling pursuit victory at the Olympic Games in Barcelona had secured his own place at the world championships in Norway next month, earned another berth when he inspired his North Wirral-Kodak club's 100km team to a British record and selection for Oslo en masse (Peter Bryant writes).

Boardman, replacing out-of-form Matthew Illingworth, joined Peter Longbottom, Paul Jennings and Simon Lillistone to win the Road Time Trials Council's championship in the 2hr 00min race, bettering the previous national mark by three minutes. "It was as near perfect a time trial as I could have imagined," Boardman said. "A fast, smooth ride." He leaves for Bordeaux tomorrow, where, on July 23, he will attempt to break Francesco Moser's one-hour world record of 51.51km. He could not leave with better form.

Sunday match boycott

RUGBY UNION: South Africa could be severely depleted for their match against Queensland in Brisbane on August 8 because some players have objected to playing on a Sunday on religious grounds. Francois Pienaar, the captain, who flew out with the squad from Johannesburg yesterday on a 13-match tour of Australia, is among those who may make himself unavailable for the game.

Armand Vaquerin, the former international prop forward who won 26 caps for France, died instantly from a pistol wound in a bar in Béziers on Saturday. Police sources said Vaquerin, 42, shot himself during a game of Russian roulette.

Rain suits Fox's style

CANOEING: Richard Fox, of Nottingham, won his fifth individual world championship title at Mezzana, in Italy, yesterday when he took the men's kayak title. Torrential rain had swollen the River Nore to suit Fox's style and his time in the first run gave him the championship from Richard Weiss, of the United States, by half a second. Melvyn Jones took the bronze medal with another Briton, Shaun Pearce, fourth. Britain also won the team kayak event, the three-man squad of Fox, Jones and Pearce finishing almost three seconds ahead of France.

Juniors' double first

SWIMMING: Neil Willey, of Barnet, and James Hickman, of Stockport, won gold medals for Great Britain at the European junior championships in Istanbul on Saturday. Willey, 16, improved his own European junior record by almost two seconds to 56.50sec in the 100 metres backstroke to become the first Briton to win a European junior backstroke title. He won by 0.38sec from Derya Buyukuncu, of Turkey. Hickman, 17, won the 200 metres butterfly in 2min 03.14sec to become the first Briton to win a European junior butterfly title.

Australia's revenge

HOCKEY: Australia produced their best form in Kuala Lumpur yesterday to defeat Germany, the holders, 4-0, and win the Champions Trophy for the sixth time. The result, which was a reversal of the final at Karachi last year, also enabled Australia to avenge the 2-1 defeat by Germany in the Olympic final at Barcelona. The highlight of the day, however, was the feat of Taco van den Honert, Holland's new short-corner specialist. He converted five with effective flicks and pushes, the last four consecutively, in the 6-2 defeat of Pakistan for the bronze medal.

Challis retains title

TRAMPOLINING: Sue Challis, the British champion, right, retained her title and secured her ninth championship victory with a world-class tariff of 11.10 for difficulty in the British individual championships at Bournemouth yesterday. Andrea Holmes, who has won the title six times, was second by 0.1 of a mark, and Luke Porter took the men's title, beating Paul Smyth by the same margin.



Sprint records tumble

ATHLETICS: Allyn Condon and Guy Bullock, two of Britain's brightest medal prospects at the European junior championships later this month, produced record-breaking performances at the English schools championships in Blackpool on Saturday. Condon clocked 10.37 seconds to add the senior boys' 100 metres title to the 200 metres crown he won at Hull 12 months ago while Bullock, won the 400 metres in 46.30sec to clip 0.03sec from David Grindley's schools best, set in 1991. Tatum Nelson broke the junior girls' 100 metres record in 11.67sec.

US pair take honours

TRIATHLON: Mike Pigg and Karen Smyers, of the United States, won their respective mountain sections when the fifth race in the International Professional Tour took place in Seefeld, Austria, on Saturday. Although Mark Allen, of the United States, who has won everything worth winning in the sport, had to be satisfied with seventh position, this was still enough for him to keep the world professional No 1 ranking. Another American, Donna Peters, moved to the head of the women's rankings when she finished third in this new event, which offered a \$30,000 prize purse.

Admiral's Cup setback

YACHTING: British preparations for the Champagne Mumm's Admiral's Cup, which starts on July 25, suffered a reverse on Saturday when Provecta, the middle boat in the team, lost her mast during practice. Provecta was tuning up in the Solent in moderate conditions when a line-squall brought sudden 30 to 35-knot winds. An upper rigging tang let go and the top third of the mast folded. Nobody was hurt. Provecta was taken to Lymington for repairs and is expected to be sailing again later this week. A new mast will be built in time for the Admiral's Cup.

Do you want to take part in the 1994 NutraSweet London Marathon?



Application for entry forms are now available at all branches of the TSB Bank - until September 17th.

Call 0891 234234 for further details (calls are charged at 36p/min, cheap rate and 48p/min at all other times).

Glamorgan join Kent at the top of Sunday league table

James leads way with century

By Jack Bailey

LIANELLI: Glamorgan (4pts) beat Sussex by 50 runs

THERE is a vibrant feeling in the valleys that Glamorgan will win something this year. Failing all else, they would settle for the Equity & Law Sunday League with the greatest of pleasure.

Yesterday, they took a large stride in the right direction by defeating Sussex, who are still among their strongest rivals but are now below Glamorgan, who are joint top with Kent in the pecking order.

It was a convincing all-round display, led by a century from James and yet another sterling innings by Morris, and they scored enough runs to give even such renowned chasers as Sussex plenty to think about.

Then, they bowled intelligently, fielded with the tenacity of Welsh terriers and found themselves challenged seriously only when David Smith and Alan Wells were in full flow and, later, when Moores, hitting at everything and indulged by variable off-spin from Richards, raced to 50 from 27 balls before being run out by the great man.

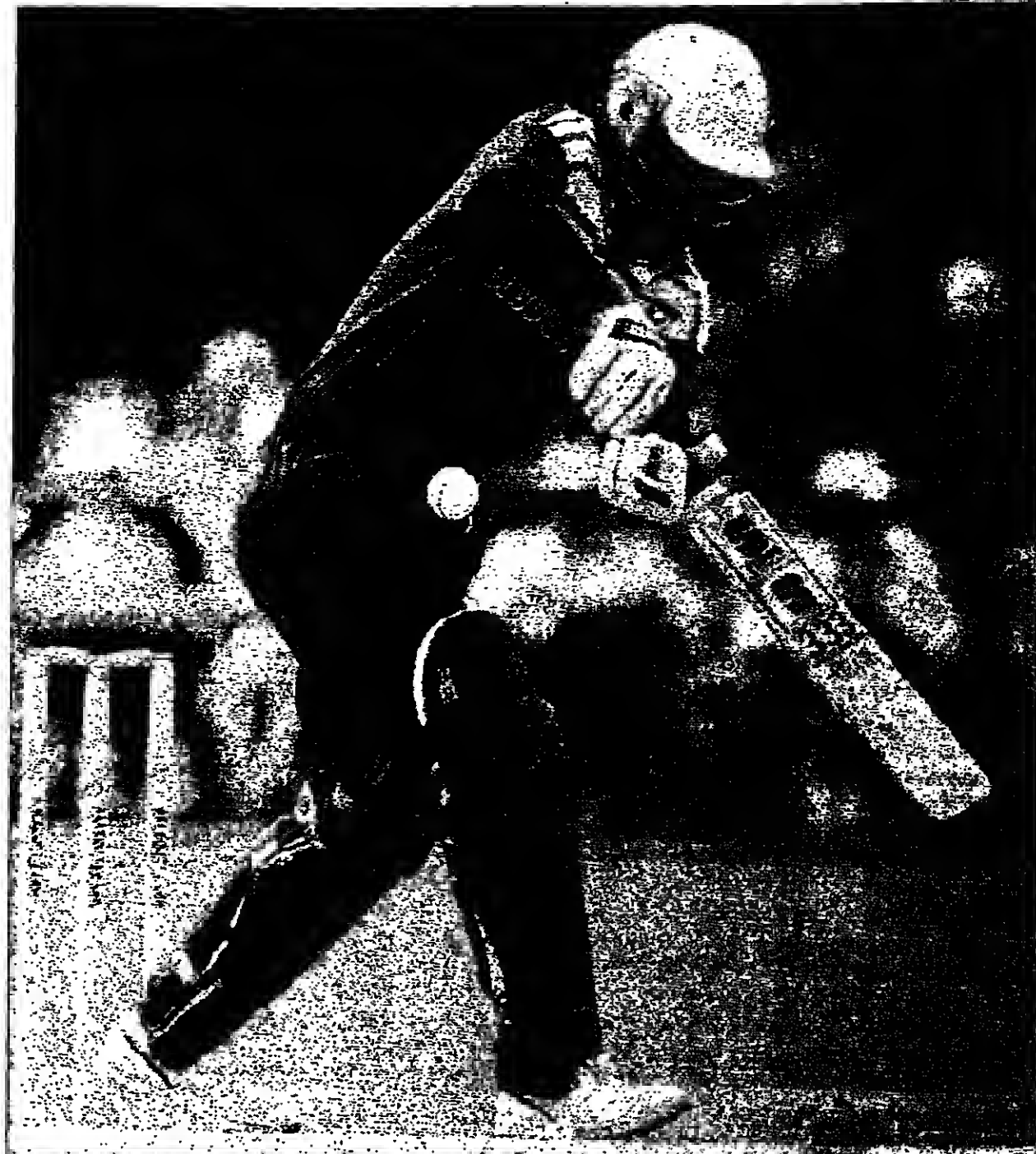
From the beginning, although severely savaged by Morris and James during an opening partnership of 120, Sussex persisted. James moved confidently past his century and on to his Sunday best score of 107 but Wells juggled his attack effectively.

Stephenson and Salisbury were particularly effective against new batsmen and although Glamorgan's 259 for eight was formidable on this small ground, it left room for hope.

Had Athey been able to hold on to a catch at slip offered by James when he had made 77, the Sussex task could have been a great deal simpler. Athey, as it turned out, did not make a swooping dive at cover to get rid of Morris and, by then, Glamorgan were off and running.

Morris had made 67 in 25 overs and had shown James the way. James quickly took on the mantle of senior partner, even with the redoubtable Maynard at the crease, and a partnership of 82 for the second wicket developed quickly.

Maynard was caught at mid-on to give Stephenson the first of his two wickets, which were economically gathered, and then it was a question of



All in vain: Hinks plays forward to a ball from Fraser in the rain-affected match at Moreton-in-Marsh

who could take up the reins during the last ten overs once James's innings of 126 balls, with eight fours, had ended.

Nobody wholly succeeded. Richards delighted with a monstrous straight six off the fast-medium Jones and the Glamorgan tail scampers almost suicidally between the wickets. But faced with a rate of just above five runs an over, Sussex were still alive and kicking.

The loss of Stephenson and Speight inside ten overs with only 54 on the board was not

the kind of start Sussex would have hoped for. Both are able to turn a match on its head.

Only last Sunday, Speight had left Tanton amazed by his century from 47 balls. Yesterday, however, he flourished only briefly before being caught from a skiver after Stephenson had perished at the hand of the old firm of Metson and Watkin.

Nobody had served Sussex better in these sort of circumstances than Smith or Wells. It was limited-overs cricket at its best as the pair carried the

score along, pushing and placing and dealing the odd violent blow.

For a time, they kept Sussex on course. The running out of Smith, vitally sent back by Wells, was a serious setback, though, and once Wells succumbed after a fine 50 scored from 81 balls, there was nobody, not even Moores, who was capable of keeping Sussex afloat. The scoring of 130 runs off the last 16 overs was all too much and there was singing in the crowd long before the end.

Glamorgan (18)	P	W	L	T	N	Pts
Kent	10	6	2	1	1	26
Gloucestershire	10	5	3	1	1	22
Surrey	10	5	3	1	1	22
Leicestershire	10	4	4	1	1	18
Derbyshire	10	4	4	1	1	18
Warwickshire	10	4	4	1	1	18
Nottinghamshire	10	4	4	1	1	18
Essex	10	4	4	1	1	18
Gloucestershire	10	4	4	1	1	18
Sussex	10	3	5	1	1	14
Worcestershire	10	3	5	1	1	14
Northamptonshire	10	3	5	1	1	14
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All-rounder stirs memories of glorious past at Lord's



Cork inspiration

It is 30 years since the first one-day county cricket final at Lord's — and in that time there have been many winners to remember. On Saturday, to the surprise, perhaps even of his most ardent admirers, Dominic Cork played one that was the equal of any.

His undefeated 92 was a tipping piece of batting, full of passion and personality. Aided and abetted admirably by O'Gorman and Krikken, Cork turned what had all the makings of a Lancashire walk-over into a Derbyshire celebration.

Kim Barnett, Derbyshire's estimable captain, once said that of all the young players he had seen Cork could go the furthest. There could be few

better references than that, and on Saturday Cork was an unrivalled winner of the Gold Award. It takes a real cricketer to play the innings he did. The last stroke he played, when he moved a yard outside the off stump and flicked Wasim Akram to long leg for four, was not baiting, it was inspiration. That was how Denis Compton used to play.

By the end of Derbyshire's innings it was being said how unfairly Lancashire had fielded. Another way of putting it was to emphasise the enterprise and conviction with which Cork and his two partners had run between the wickets. All sides, whatever their reputation in the field, are liable to wilt when runs are taken which are not normally considered.



JOHN WOODCOCK at Lord's

Hundreds, probably thousands of times in a season one sees English county batsmen ambulating a single to third man or long leg when even Don Bradman would have run it like the wind in the hope of hustling the fielder into error. I sometimes think that the value of taking the first run quickly must be something which is not taught in England anymore.

Lord's gives plenty of scope to fast runners between the wicket. In the Gentlemen and

Players match of 1947, when there were no boundary ropes in use to reduce the size of the ground, I saw Geoffrey Evans and Brian Close run six without any overthrows.

The fielders were all up round the bat, mostly behind the wicket. Trevor Bailey was bowling, and Evans, batting at the pavilion end, hit him down to the clock tower at the Nursery End.

Although a pretty good

Gentlemen's side there were no greyhounds among them, and it was George Mann, I think, who had the long chase to make from silly mid off, the ball having stopped inches short of the fence at long on. Close was young and irrepressibly keen.

Evans would have been in his element chasing runs in one of these one-day finals. Neil Fairbrother has the same jauntiness, and certainly no one would ever accuse him of not seeing the runs that are there to be taken. He and Evans would have been not much more than a blur between the wickets, rather as Evans and Tony Pawson were for Kent all those years ago.

Whether or not it is to Fairbrother's overall advantage as a batsman is doubtful,

but he has practically rewritten the book when it comes to circumventing the fields that are set in one-day cricket. The bowler almost never sees the full face of his bat, which is either shut for the purpose of playing the ball to leg or opened to find the off-side gaps.

To some extent necessity has obliged him to play as he does, through his not having the physique to be a big, front-foot driver of the quicker bowlers. In working the ball around as he does, he is resourceful and ingenious; but as a method to live by permanently it unfortunately lacks stability. He is a splendid performer and deserved to be on the winning side on Saturday, almost but not quite as much as Cork.

Holland give matting game lesson

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

WHEREVER two or three antipodeans are gathered, English cricketers face potential embarrassment, even in Haarlem.

It was always likely that, on matting pitches so alien to players used to grass, Holland would provide testing opposition and on Saturday, in the second of two one-day games, they did, winning a low-scoring match by seven wickets.

Peter Cantrell, from Queensland, who made 64, and Roger Bradley, a New Zealander, shared the third-wicket stand of 138 which enabled the Dutch to celebrate long into the night.

Bradley was unbeaten on 88 when Holland overhauled England's 188 for seven with three balls to spare. Darren Gough taking two of the three Dutch wickets to fall.

Cantrell and Bradley both came to Holland as cricketers, married local girls and decided to stay — a familiar story where Dutch cricket is concerned.

So, too, is the watering of pitches, which made batting first difficult. Holland won a helpful toss although Keith Fletcher said that England would also have batted had the coin fallen the other way.

"The ball moved around a lot in the morning," Fletcher said, "but, to be fair, they bowled well. Our players did their best. It is not the end of the world. In fact it has been a good weekend's cricket and, even though it is always disappointing to lose, I am not unhappy with the way things went."

Mark Benson made England's top score of 58, his second half-century of the brief tour. Apart from John Stephenson, who scored 41, nobody else made telling contributions and, by the time Holland's reply was under way, conditions were less tricky.

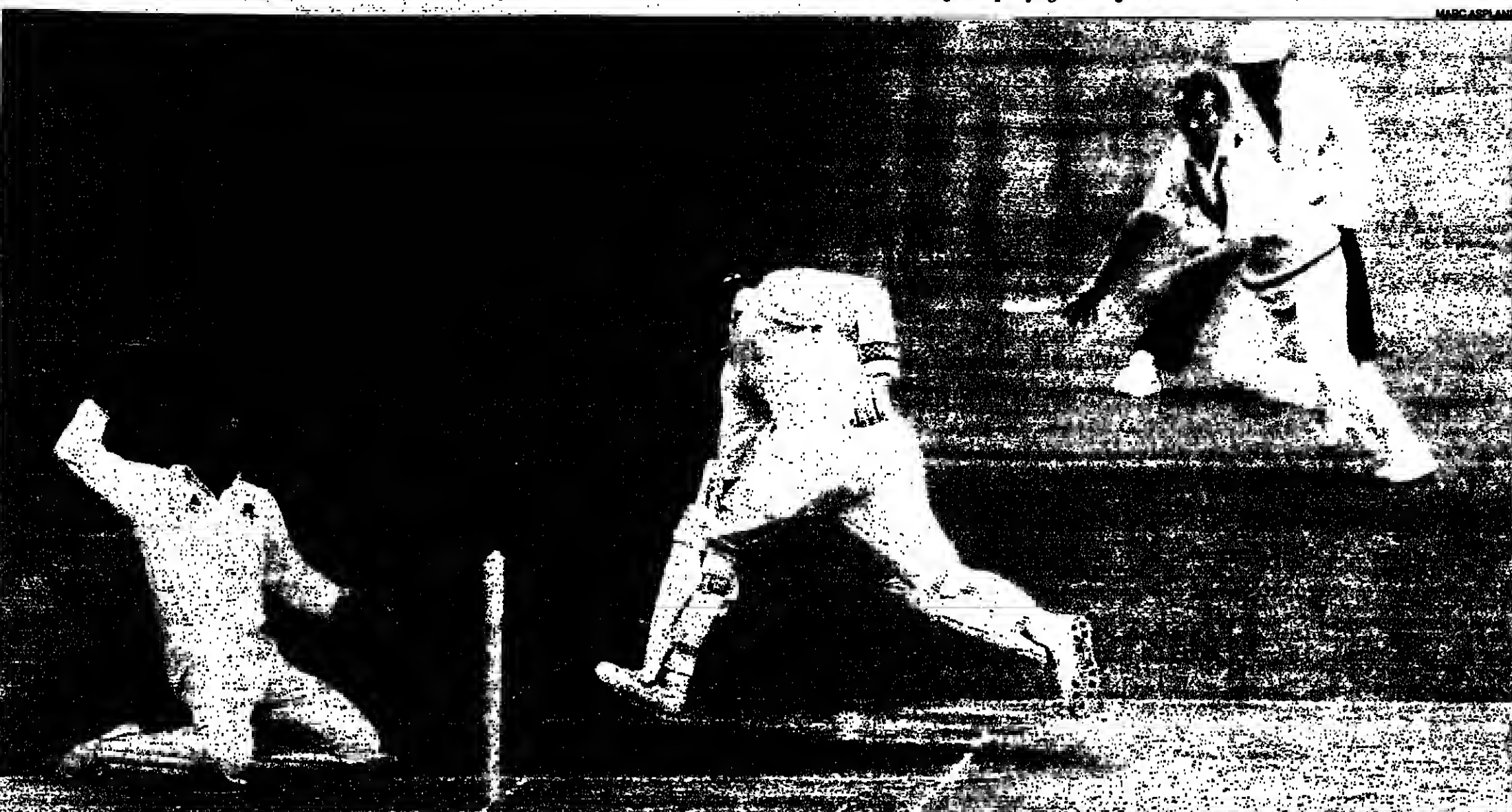
Martin McCague, wisely, was not prepared to risk slipping on such a surface and any talk of humiliation at the hands of amateur cricketers is palpably absurd.

Cantrell, who worked in the sales department of the Amsterdam newspaper, *De Telegraaf*, and is now about to embark on a course for golf professionals, has mastered the language well enough to be fluent in it, an interesting inversion in a country where English is spoken so widely and so well.

Two years ago, at Brisbane, he fielded as substitute for David Boon in the first Test against England which Australia won by ten wickets. He held two catches off Terry Alderman to dismiss Alec Stewart and Angus Fraser.

John Wories, the Dutch manager, said in the glow of victory that: "We know where we stand. There is a long way to go but the only way we can improve is to play games like this."

The Dutch are preparing to install a proper grass square at Amstelveen, which would cost in the region of £120,000. That sum is equivalent to the fee which teams competing in the next World Cup in India and Pakistan could expect to take as a promise.



Comfortably home: Adams, of Derbyshire, scampers in as Hegg, the Lancashire wicketkeeper, fails to gather the ball and Fairbrother looks on in the Benson and Hedges final at Lord's on Saturday

Cork keeps cool in chaotic confrontation

By ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

FEW people gave Derbyshire a serious chance of beating Lancashire in the Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's on Saturday. That they did owed much to Dominic Cork and a good deal to Lancashire themselves, who compromised and confused their game plan by an apparently obsessive desire to humble the opposition.

In some ways, this was an epic final. It had the necessary fluctuations, the heroic innings and the pulsating last-over finish, still more dramatic for taking place in the gloom at 8.30pm. But the overall impression was of a game that suffered for its emotions, the passion giving way to bitterness.

Aggression is a sporting virtue only when properly channelled. Running wild, as it did within both teams on Saturday, it is a recipe for chaos. Nobody was more guilty of this than Wasim Akram and, as a result, the best cricketer on either side was neutralised.

Wasim invited suspicion and shame, when he had claimed to want sympathy and sensitivity. The high full toss with which he hit Chris

Adams just below the shoulder blade was a disgrace. If it was an accident, then it was an astonishing lapse by one of the most accurate fast bowlers I have ever seen; if it was a deliberate bouncer, Wasim deserved far more censure than the routine warning issued by the umpire, Barrie Meyer. Either way, Wasim showed dammingly little remorse.

That ball scarred the day. After it, Lancashire ran around like headless chickens, their fielding a comical saga of errors and their bowling, especially that of Wasim, frenetically wayward.

Derbyshire's batting showed first the instinct to lash out in retaliation but, later, through Cork and two admirable partners, a more controlled and effective response that saved, and then claimed, the game.

Adams was allegedly the batsman who first questioned Wasim's treatment of the ball during his six for 11 spell in the championship match between the sides a fortnight ago.

If the incident on Saturday was a gesture of resentment from Wasim, it was unworthy of a great cricketer who has spent the past 12 months pleading his innocence of one of the game's stigmatised sins

and has now committed another, at least in the judgment of Adams, who, it appears, confronted him with a threat and a promise during the lunch interval.

But if it can be argued that Wasim escaped lightly, Lancashire certainly suffered for his

hot-headedness. He finished with one for 65 from his 11 overs and then, coming in to bat with the match still there to be won, he was out so tamely that his captain, Neil Fairbrother, threw back his head and tossed down his bat in disgust.

Fairbrother did his redoubtable best to drag his side out of the self-made mire. He has batted like this many times before in leading one-day games and his talent in this arena is unrivalled, his technique honed to the needs of limited-overs fields. It simply

does not work amid the close catches of the Test and first-class game.

Lancashire, their pursuit hampered with care by Atherton, needed 112 from 17 overs when rain delayed the end to dusk. On the resumption, Atherton was out when they most needed him to stay. Lloyd quickly followed and Wasim was twice dropped off frantic heaves before giving a simple return catch to the steady Warner. The asking rate was nine an over from the last seven but Fairbrother gave Lancashire hope.

The target diminished to 55 from six, 43 from five after an awful over from Cork and 32 from three after a crucially splendid one from the same character. Griffith, a young and somewhat naive cricketer, conceded 11 in the 53rd over but merited much sympathy for being saddled with bowling the last, Fairbrother on strike and only 11 wanted.

A check of rulebooks by the umpires built up the tension to fever pitch but Fairbrother had seen it all before and the odds were in his favour. Griffith, however, began with a ball in the blockhole that Fairbrother could only keep out. The next brought just a single, after which DeFreitas,

presented with a full toss, hoisted it high and hideously to the wicketkeeper, a piece of cricket that somehow characterised the day.

Even Fairbrother could conjure nothing after that and the gold award, which might easily have come his way, instead went deservedly to Cork, whose triumphs were many and varied. His unbeaten 92 calmed Derbyshire's habitual but unusually marked suicidal tendencies; it also proved to those in high places that his batting, as well as his swing bowling, is to be taken seriously.

Cork strode in at the lowest point of Derbyshire's day, 66 for four on the dismissal of an angry Adams. He played from the start with striking conviction, sharing stands of 114 with Tim O'Gorman and 77 with Karl Krikken. From the last six overs of the innings, 63 were scored and only three balls were runless.

Amid so much error and mediocrity, Cork stood out with strokeplay both measured and inventive. Graham Gooch emerged from the BBC commentary box wide-eyed with admiration and the Test debut that has arguably been too long delayed may now be very close.

British pair seal victory

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT, IN LUCERNE

STEVE Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, the Olympic gold medal-winners, clinched an impressive victory but it was mostly a disappointing day for the British heavy-weight rowing crews.

The national team won six sets of medals, although the glory went largely to the lightweight and the women, the senior men's team struggling to find cohesion with just seven weeks to go to the world championships.

Fate smiled on Redgrave and Pinsent. Always happier in a head wind, a prevailing tail wind swatched completely five minutes before the coxless pairs final in torrential rain. The British pair found their rhythm after 500 metres, imposed their authority and steadily overtook the field to record victory against the best in the world only a week after Redgrave's seven races at Henley.

Peter Haining revelled in his lightweight sculls success on the Rotsee, hurling his cap into the air as he crossed the line. His final opponents included the 1992 world gold and silver medal-winners, Jens-Moltr Ernst, of Belgium, and the Dutchman, Pepi Aardewijn, and the 1991 champion, Niall O'Toole, from Ireland. Haining came with a late burst to pass Aardewijn and O'Toole.

Final charges are a hallmark of British lightweighters. The British coxless four, the world champions, also left it late to overtake the Swiss and Italians for their gold medal but their lightweight eight companions allowed the Danish world champions a fraction too much early leeway and failed by a matter of feet, the nearest any crew has come to the Danes this season.

Britain's women generally impressed but the leading performers, Miriam Batten

and Jo Turvey, had steering difficulties and suffered disqualification. A superb start gave them a lead of a length at 500 metres but they were warned as the French pair went past and were disqualified after crossing the line third.

No such problems affected the two women's coxless fours. The lightweight crew, with one change since their world silver medal-winning performance last summer, trailed both the Germans and Americans in the first 1,000 metres, but totally eclipsed the rest of the field in the second kilometre. The improving heavyweight coxless four held third place throughout their final and increased their world championship hopes as did the lightweight double of Helen Mangan and Patricia Corless, who missed a bronze medal by inches.

Results, page 23

Packer's charges squeezed out

By JOHN WATSON

BROOK Johnson's American squad, CS Brooks, won the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance Cup at Cowdray Park, Sussex, yesterday with a 12-1 victory over Kerry Packer's Ellerston White.

The match was also a quarter-final of the Davidoff British Open, in which CS Brooks will now face Ellerston Black in the semi-final on Thursday.

Ellerston White enjoyed the best of the first two chukkas, during which their ten-handicap Argentine duo, Gonzalo Pieres and Adolfo Cambiaso, whose galloping dribbles delighted the audience, often looked impossible to mark.

By the third chukka CS Brooks, the better balanced side, had grown more co-operatively close, and thereafter played a superb tactical game with their two Ameri-

can strong men, Owen Rinehart and Adam Snow, making full use of their No.1 Julian Daniels, who was the man of the match. Roddy Vere Nicoll also gave an excellent account of himself in the back slot.

By treading in time the score was 6-6. Halfway through the fourth chukka, CS Brooks went into the lead for the first time — with a penalty conversion by Rinehart — at 8-7. And despite Ellerston's aggressive assault, CS Brooks did not trail again.

The other quarter-final, played off at Cirencester yesterday, was won 9-7 by Alcatel against Black Bears. Alcatel will meet Aston Martin in the semi.

CS Brooks: 1, J Daniels 23; 2, A Snow 30; 3, O Rinehart 25; 4, B Vere Nicoll 21; 5, J Daniels 10; 6, J Daniels 10; 7, J Daniels 10; 8, J Daniels 10; 9, J Daniels 10; 10, J Daniels 10; 11, J Daniels 10; 12, J Daniels 10.

Walker close to signing

SHEFFIELD Wednesday are close to agreeing a £2.5 million deal that would bring the footballer, Des Walker, back from Sampdoria. Wednesday are ready to double their previous record fee, the £1.2 million paid to Rangers for the goalkeeper, Chris Woods, two years ago, to tempt Walker, the England central defender.

Reg Brealey, the Sheffield United chairman, will decide this weekend on a £2.7 million offer from Leeds United for the striker, Brian Deane.

Brealey faces boardroom resignations if he accepts, but he denied yesterday that the manager, Dave Bassett, would also quit. At a meeting yesterday the directors were split on the Leeds offer.

English supporters paid compensation

By DAVID BARTAL AND JOHN GOODBODY

TWELVE English football supporters will be paid a total of 35,000 kroner (£3,043) by the Swedish police board for being wrongfully arrested and deported in September 1989, when there was trouble at the World Cup qualifying game in Stockholm.

The biggest award, ordered by the Swedish Chancellor of Justice, will go to Damian Brown, 22, of Wickford, Essex, who will receive £521. He was one of the innocent members of a group of 102 Englishmen who were rounded up by police during a riot a few hours before the game.

Brown said he was about to take the underground from the central train station when he heard shouting and went to investigate. "Suddenly, I was surrounded by riot police, who forced other Englishmen and me behind a rope," he told

Express. The Swedish newspaper, after being taken to jail, he said he was flown out of Sweden accompanied by two policemen.

Brown was reportedly also the innocent victim of a similar mass arrest in Rimini during the 1990 World Cup, when the Italians flew home 246 England followers in the biggest peacetime deportation in Italian history. Some supporters are still seeking compensation. "Police think all Englishmen are hooligans. We get blamed for everything," Brown said.

Brown, who lives with his parents in Essex, where he runs a small record company, will use the money for a visit to Rotterdam on October 13, when England play Holland in a match that could decide which country goes to the 1994 World Cup finals.

Frantic fly-and-drive journeys rewarded with low scores in Open qualifying

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THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 12 1993

Dry fly finding new friends in still waters

Brian Clarke explains why an old fly-fishing technique is enjoying a new lease of life among British anglers

Fashions come and go in fly-fishing faster than they do on the catwalks of Paris. Always, it seems, someone has just developed a killer-diller fly, or new kind of line, or has produced a thingummy that the world has been crying out for. But blink and you miss them. Here yesterday afternoon, gone this morning.

It has always been thus, as any glance at an old fishing book or magazine will show. And yet I believe that, right now, we are seeing the emergence of a style of fishing, and an old style of fishing, applied in a new and controlled way — that is genuinely carrying the sport forward.

It is one likely to take its place alongside traditional loch-style fishing from a drifting boat, alongside imitative nymph fishing as an essential element in the armoury of the reservoir and lake trout fisherman. It is the dry fly.

The dry fly has always taken some fish from the big lakes, of course, and in the hands of a few it has sometimes taken quite a lot. But historically, dry fly on the still waters has been regarded as a minor tactic. If the floating fly, taken up more than five per cent of a lake fisher's season, then he was using it more often than most.

Today, the situation for some has very nearly been reversed. So effective is the dry fly proving, that many of the country's leading reservoir anglers are using it more than all other techniques put together, especially when fishing from a boat.

John Horsey, the resident professional at Chew Valley and Blagdon lakes, near Bristol, and a man who has represented England in the world fly-fishing championships three years out of the last four, told me recently that the dry fly is his first line of attack in most conditions and that he takes around 80 per cent of all his reservoir trout by using it.

Even more surprising are the conditions that are proving ideal for the technique. One of them is bright sun and flat calm, even in a boat the very conditions, indeed, that anglers fishing traditional wet-fly techniques would regard as utterly hopeless until



John Horsey, an England international, demonstrates the art of dry fly fishing drift style on a boat at Chew Valley, near Bristol

evening, when the last rays are slanting across the water and the evening rise, if there is to be one, begins.

Just as surprising is that the dry fly scores well in the opposite weather extreme on a dull day with a big wave in a strong wind, in conditions, indeed, that would seem to offer a travelling fish little chance of picking out a small fly in the wind-blown, tumbling above it.

Indeed, the only kind of day that would not have Horsey and others reaching for the dry fly first is when there is bright sun and wind together: conditions that seem to discourage many fish from coming right to the surface.

It was precisely such conditions that prevailed on the few

hours a couple of weeks ago that Horsey and I had arranged to fish at Chew, although for all that, we decided to give the dry fly a try.

We concentrated on the calm lanes that appear on a windy day, narrow pathways of flat water that run across the ripple at irregular intervals. The flatter surface film in these lanes makes it more difficult for insects to hatch and the trout often swim up and down them, mopping up the trapped and the dead. We cast teams of dry flies in sizes 14, 12 and 10 downwind into these lanes, as we drifted.

Even though conditions were about as bad as they could get for the technique, in

a spell when we would otherwise probably have seen nothing, we boated three fish. We cast broken by a rod-wrenching take, and we missed perhaps another half-dozen trout.

It was not that there was a rise. It was more that we had created our own rise. The fish, which in the great heat must have been several feet down, simply confirmed their willingness to lift right to the surface to take a floating artificial, literally out of the blue. Had they not risen to take, we would never have known they were there.

There are several basic rules for this kind of fishing. The first is that the flies must actually be floating — be in or

on the surface film and not under it. The second is that their precise location should be known, whatever the conditions. The third is that the flies should not be moved — they should be cast out and left to drift free. The fourth essential is that the leader should be as fine as possible and, as in all dry fly fishing, should be treated to sink.

It was because of the need to use fine leaders (small flies cannot be fished naturally on thick nylon) that we were broken. Horsey was using pre-stretched ultra-fine 6lb nylon. I was using standard 4lb nylon. My leader did not have the strength necessary to hold the fish, his did not have the elasticity to absorb the shock of the take.

Horsey used three flies that sat right down in the surface film, rather than on it, as many modern dry flies are designed to do. I used two flies, one a float-floater of my own design, the other a little black fly designed to sit up high. I used the high visibility of the latter to help me locate the former and both got takes.

The importance of knowing precisely where the flies are because of the takes. In spite of the fisher's duo that broke us clean and the couple that splashed and rolled, most takes were substantially gentle — mere audible sips or briefly-glanced sniffs poking in the air. Even in bright sun and low ripple the water would have gone completely unnoticed had we not been

looking directly at them. In a wave, most offers would have gone begging, and the fish with them.

It is interesting that the dry fly on the big lakes and reservoirs is only now getting the attention that it clearly deserves. But it is, and refinements of it are being pushed steadily forward by men like Horsey and others at Grafton, Rutland, Bewl and elsewhere.

Fished with concentration and attention to detail, the dry fly as described here will bring many fish in the traditional dog-days of summer. The greatest problem for most anglers beneath a burning sun when float on a calm, will be in believing that it really can work. It does.

Scully quest blown off course

By Barry Pickthall

DAVID Scully and Steve Fossent suffered a setback yesterday in their quest to break the round-Britain yachting record when their 60ft American trimaran, Lakota, ran into trouble south of St Kilda on the third stage of the Teesside Round Britain and Ireland race.

After leaving Barra at 10.30pm on Saturday, the Americans took more than 12 hours to cover the 70 miles from the Outer Hebrides to St Kilda. Their difficulties were serious enough to force them to stop racing and carry out repairs.

Scully, whose multihull had made up more than ten hours on the schedule required to break the record set four years ago by François Boucher's 75ft Saab Turbo, had hoped to complete the next 420-mile stage to Lerwick in the Shetlands within 30 hours but may now be hard pressed in the force eight north-westerly winds prevailing to stay ahead of Saab's time.

The fierce conditions have led to a high attrition rate within the fleet, with eight of the 52 starters retiring less than a third of the way through the 2,000 mile course.

The outstanding performer now is Seaverles Challenge, the 35ft Class 5 trimaran of Brian Thompson and Helena Darvelid, which led the fleet away from Plymouth and now lies second overall to Lakota, 18½ hours behind.

Another absorbing contest developing among the smaller Class 5 boats is between Edward Brannard and Bill Saltenstall's American monohull Curlew; Drakkar, sailed by the Dutch pair, Robert Morelisse and Peter Vroom and the British entry Q11, sailed by Mary Falk and Jenny Pocock.

They have been battling it out within sight of each other for three days, and three hours is all that divides them.

RESULTS: Overall positions after two legs. Class 1: 1. Lakota (US), 2. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 3. Curlew (UK), 4. Drakkar (UK), 5. Q11 (UK), 6. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 7. Curlew (UK), 8. Drakkar (UK), 9. Q11 (UK), 10. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 11. Curlew (UK), 12. Drakkar (UK), 13. Q11 (UK), 14. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 15. Curlew (UK), 16. Drakkar (UK), 17. Q11 (UK), 18. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 19. Curlew (UK), 20. Drakkar (UK), 21. Q11 (UK), 22. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 23. Curlew (UK), 24. Drakkar (UK), 25. Q11 (UK), 26. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 27. Curlew (UK), 28. Drakkar (UK), 29. Q11 (UK), 30. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 31. Curlew (UK), 32. Drakkar (UK), 33. Q11 (UK), 34. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 35. Curlew (UK), 36. Drakkar (UK), 37. Q11 (UK), 38. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 39. Curlew (UK), 40. Drakkar (UK), 41. Q11 (UK), 42. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 43. Curlew (UK), 44. Drakkar (UK), 45. Q11 (UK), 46. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 47. Curlew (UK), 48. Drakkar (UK), 49. Q11 (UK), 50. Seaverles Challenge (UK), 51. Curlew (UK), 52. Drakkar (UK).

ATHLETICS

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BASEBALL

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Mansell injures wrist after qualifying success

By Our Sports Staff

NIGEL Mansell had a tougher time walking than driving on Saturday when he suffered a bizarre injury only minutes after claiming a place on the front row for the Cleveland grand prix IndyCar race.

Mansell, who escaped from the qualifying session unscathed, then hurt his right wrist as he tripped and fell on his way into the media trailer for post-race interviews. "I think this is the first time I've head butted a press room," Mansell joked.

He grimaced in pain after missing a step on a portable metal stairway and was taken to the nearby medical centre, where X-rays showed no broken bones.

Dr Joe Baele said the Briton had probably suffered a sprain in breaking his fall. He was re-examined before yesterday's race.

The Formula One world champion was second fastest at 59.403sec behind Paul Tracy, of Canada, who

took pole position with a track record of 59.168sec. Tracy had an average speed of 144.139mph (231.962kph) in a Penske Chevrolet.

It took him only ten minutes into his 30-minute session to make his record-setting turn around the 2.37-mile (3.81 km), ten-turn circuit and claim his second career pole in 23 starts.

Tracy, 24, who had to contend with 90°F (32°C) heat and a bumpy tarmac to earn the first pole of the year for a Penske-Chevy V8/C, said: "It was kind of funny. We did it on the eleventh lap on slicker (new) tyres."

Mansell, who before yesterday's race led the IndyCar championship by 14 points, was going for his fifth pole of the season, but had to settle for second best. He said he was running his Lola chassis at its limit.

"I couldn't go any faster than I did. I went off the circuit three times in the last chicane. I hustled the car and I don't like doing that, because we damaged it a little bit."

Emerson Fittipaldi, of Brazil, and Stefan Johansson, of Sweden, were third and fourth fastest and will start from the second row, with Scott Goodyear and Danny Sullivan claiming the third row on the grid.

Fittipaldi, a two-times Indy 500 winner and former world champion, recorded the third quickest time of 59.609sec in a Penske Chevy V8/C. "I had a very good day," last year's pole winner said. "I was just trying to catch Nigel. I knew I couldn't catch Paul."

"Then coming out of turn six, I hit the wall, I had understeer coming out of turn eight and I blew the tyre. That was a little bit disturbing to my qualifying," he said.

Johansson, another Formula One veteran, said he had to contend with engine problems in his Penske Chevy V8/C.

"We've been battling all day with not enough boost," he said. "We lost nearly the whole first session in the morning so we're still trying to find

our way with the set-up." Twenty-nine cars were expected to start yesterday's race over 85 laps.

FINAL PRACTICE TIMES: 1. P. Tracy (Can), Penske Chevy V8/C, 59.168 (231.962kph); 2. P. Mansell (GB), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.403 (231.962kph); 3. E. Fittipaldi (Br), Penske Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 4. S. Johansson (Swe), Penske Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 5. S. Goodyear (Can), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 6. D. Sullivan (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 7. A. Unser Jr (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 8. M. Smith (US), Penske Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 9. T. Pabst (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 10. B. Rahal (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 11. M. Andretti (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 12. R. Buesch (Br), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 13. B. Fittipaldi (Br), Penske Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 14. W. T. Rife (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 15. A. Luyker (Hol), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 16. S. Brayton (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 17. O. Grouillard (Fr), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 18. R. Guerrero (US), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 19. C. Danner (Ger), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 20. R. Goodyear (Can), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph); 21. H. Matsushita (Jpn), Lola T900-Chevy V8/C, 59.609 (231.962kph).

British medal hopes high for football and rowing



DAVID MILLER
at the World Student Games

The world's second largest multiple sports event is in full swing here in Buffalo, New York State, the highly under-rated World Student Games.

It is the last surviving major amateur sports gathering, larger than the Winter Olympics and the International Amateur Athletic Union, which began on Wednesday.

The eighteenth student games are not short on stars. Frankie Fredericks, of Namibia, the double Olympic sprint silver medal-winner in Barcelona, leads the field in athletics, which begin on Wednesday.

Also competing are the American, Eric Walder, one of nine men to jump 25 feet. Florian Schwarzenegger, of Germany, a world champion 110-metre hurdles rival - to Colin Jackson, of Hungary, the pole vault winner in Sheffield in 1991, who has cleared 5.92 metres, and Elena Meyer, the South African 10,000 metres Olympic silver medal-winner.

Eligible British contenders such as Curtis Robb, David Grindley, Mark Richardson, Paula Radcliffe and Steve Smith are concentrating on preparations for Stuttgart, but Steve Gookey and Kerri Maddox, respective bronze winners in 1991 at 100 metres and high hurdles, are here again.

David Fox and Seth Pepper, attempting to emulate Biondi, have already taken the first two places in the men's 100 metres freestyle swimming, but outside Biondi's 1985 record.

Rowing, one of two events being co-hosted by Canada across the Niagara River, the other is women's football at Hamilton - promises to be that sport's second most important event of the year.

Marnie McBean, of Canada, the double Olympic gold medal-winner last year, is among an array of prominent rowers.

Jürgen Grobler, Britain's chief coach, persuaded the Amateur Rowing Association to give the student games second priority this year, and the team is optimistic of winning medals.

Their best hopes are the London University/Imperial College lightweight coxless fours; Robert Redpath and Ned Kite in double sculls; the men's heavyweight eight including Richard Phelps and James Behrens, skipper of the victorious Boat Race crew; and Phoebe White from Oxford University in women's sculls.

The British football team took the bronze medal in Sheffield and are now among the favourites, convincingly defeating Italy 3-0

after being awarded the same score against Nigeria when the opposition, delayed by immigration formalities, failed to arrive in time.

Once John Magee had just before half-time, a clever but disjointed Italian side became dispirited. Magee and Colin Murphy added the other goals.

Scott Kewswick and Jarr Lynch, members of the sixth-placed United States gymnastics team in Barcelona, could only help their colleagues to a team bronze medal here behind Italy and China, but the individual star inevitably promises to be Vitaly Scherbo, holder of six Olympic gold medals.

Scherbo is spending the summer competing at a Pennsylvania gymnastics camp, and was an unexpected addition to the Belarusian team, the rest of whom arrived after four days travel without sleep and unsurprisingly finished ninth.

Scherbo is a despairing example of a semi-stateless sportsman, manipulated first by the Soviet Union and now by Belarusia as an international figurehead of prestige, yet torn between emotional loyalty to his home of Minsk and the opportunity to find financial security in the West.

In unhesitating and ironic fractured English he relates his family's problems: The dilemma for his mother, ill at ease when visiting the West, struggling to survive on a pitifully low income.

He feels exhausted and exploited; partially voluntarily, giving repeated exhibitions worldwide, and hoping soon to have an agent to handle American appearances, fees and endorsements. A gymnast's performing life is short, and he must provide for his wife and baby daughter.

He says he would never allow her to be a gymnast. "One in the family is enough," he says, wrestling with the logistics of how he will complete his medical studies in Minsk. Gymnastics has given him, and denied him, so much.



Meyer: track star



Clear winner: Nick Skelton, on Everest Limited Edition, rides to the only faultless round in the King George V Gold Cup at Hickstead yesterday

Skelton stands alone as pack falters

By A Correspondent

NICK Skelton, riding Everest Limited Edition, won the King George V Gold Cup at the Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead yesterday, becoming the first rider since 1956 to do so without the need of a jump-off. Eleven riders finished on four faults to share second place.

The last person to achieve such an easy victory was Bill Steinkraus, of the United States, who gained the only two clear rounds at the White City in 1956 on First Boy and Night Owl. He then nominated First Boy the winner.

Yesterday, Skelton who last won the King George V Gold Cup in 1984 on St James, gained his clear round just over half way through the class when there was still

plenty of good riders to jump. But, one by one, they faltered and the competition began to look like a one-man show.

The upright fences caused the most trouble. Harvey Smith on Gold knocked down the Hickstead Rails; Michael Whitaker (with Midnight Madness) and Warren Clarke on Benjamin II both lowered the Derby Rails. John Whitaker had already collected four faults when Everest Hopsotch put a foot in the water and when Mark Armstrong lowered three fences it was all down to David Broome and Lannegan. Last to go, to stop Skelton walking away with an easy victory.

His hopes faded at the sixth where Lannegan lowered the Hickstead Rails and Broome joined the ranks of the 11 riders all on four faults. Two

Bond International King George V Gold Cup: 1. Everest Limited Edition (N Skelton); 2. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 3. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 4. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 5. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 6. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 7. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 8. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 9. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 10. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 11. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 12. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 13. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 14. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 15. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 16. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 17. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 18. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 19. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 20. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 21. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 22. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 23. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 24. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 25. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 26. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 27. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 28. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 29. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 30. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 31. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 32. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. C.); 33. Mr. M. J. C. (J. C. 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Kenyan sets world best but compatriot is jeered for failing to help Skah's record attempt

Ondieki bursts through barrier for 10,000m

FROM DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT
IN OSLO

FIRST the Kenyan hero, then the villain. Seeing one world record whet the appetite and, after cheering Yobes Ondieki to new 10,000 metres figures in the Bislett Games here on Saturday, the crowd turned against Paul Bitok for declining to help an attempt on another.

In becoming the first athlete to break 27 minutes, Ondieki gave Bislett its first track world record for seven years, long starvation for a stadium in which they were plentiful in the peak years of Kristiansen, Aulita, Coe, Ovett and Cram. Ondieki's was a record as brilliant as any of them, removing 9.53 seconds from the time set only five days earlier by Richard Chelimo, in Stockholm.

Within an hour of Ondieki's 26min 53.38sec, anticipation rose again as Khalid Skah, a summer resident of Oslo, came out for the 5,000 metres.

The early laps were on world-record schedule but, with the pacemakers gone, and Skah and Bitok away from the field, the challenge to time faded as the Kenyan refused to take a turn at the front.

Tired of leading, Skah waved Bitok past with 1,700 metres to go and again with 1,600 metres remaining, imploring him to take the pace. Bitok declined, the record slipped away, and a cacophony of jeers started up, reminiscent of those aimed against Skah in the Barcelona Olympic stadium last summer.

On that occasion the Spanish crowd judged Skah guilty of unsportsmanlike behaviour, receiving assistance from his Moroccan countryman, Hammou Boutayeb, on his way to victory in the 10,000 metres. At first the judges agreed, awarding the race to Chelimo, who had crossed the line second, but the next day Skah was reinstated.

Here Skah had the crowd's sympathy vote, being out-kicked by Bitok, who won in

Date	Name	Time
11.11.92	E. Zaitsep (Cz)	26:51.6
1.8.94	Zaitsep	26:54.2
15.7.88	S. Kuts (Ukr)	26:54.2
11.9.88	V. Kuts (USSR)	26:54.4
15.10.80	P. Bolobolov (USSR)	26:58.8
11.8.82	Bolobolov	26:58.8
18.12.80	R. Chelimo (Ken)	26:58.8
14.7.85	Chelimo	27:39.4
3.8.72	L. Viren (Fin)	27:38.4
13.7.78	D. Bedford (GB)	27:38.8
30.6.77	S. Numbwa (Ken)	27:39.5
11.7.78	H. Rono (Ken)	27:22.5
2.7.84	F. Hernandez (Per)	27:13.8
18.8.89	A. Santos (Mex)	27:03.2
5.7.83	R. Chelimo (Ken)	27:07.9
10.7.83	Y. Chelimo (Ken)	26:59.58

13min 08.68sec. Bitok did not go on his lap of honour, leaving it for Skah, who said he would try for the 10,000 metres record in Brussels on September 3.

Talented though Skah is, the record may be beyond him. Not since Ron Clarke broke it in Oslo in 1965 has it been cut by such a margin. Sad to think that Ondieki, 32, is unlikely to be at the world championships in Stuttgart next month, either to defend

his 5,000 metres title or contest the 10,000 metres.

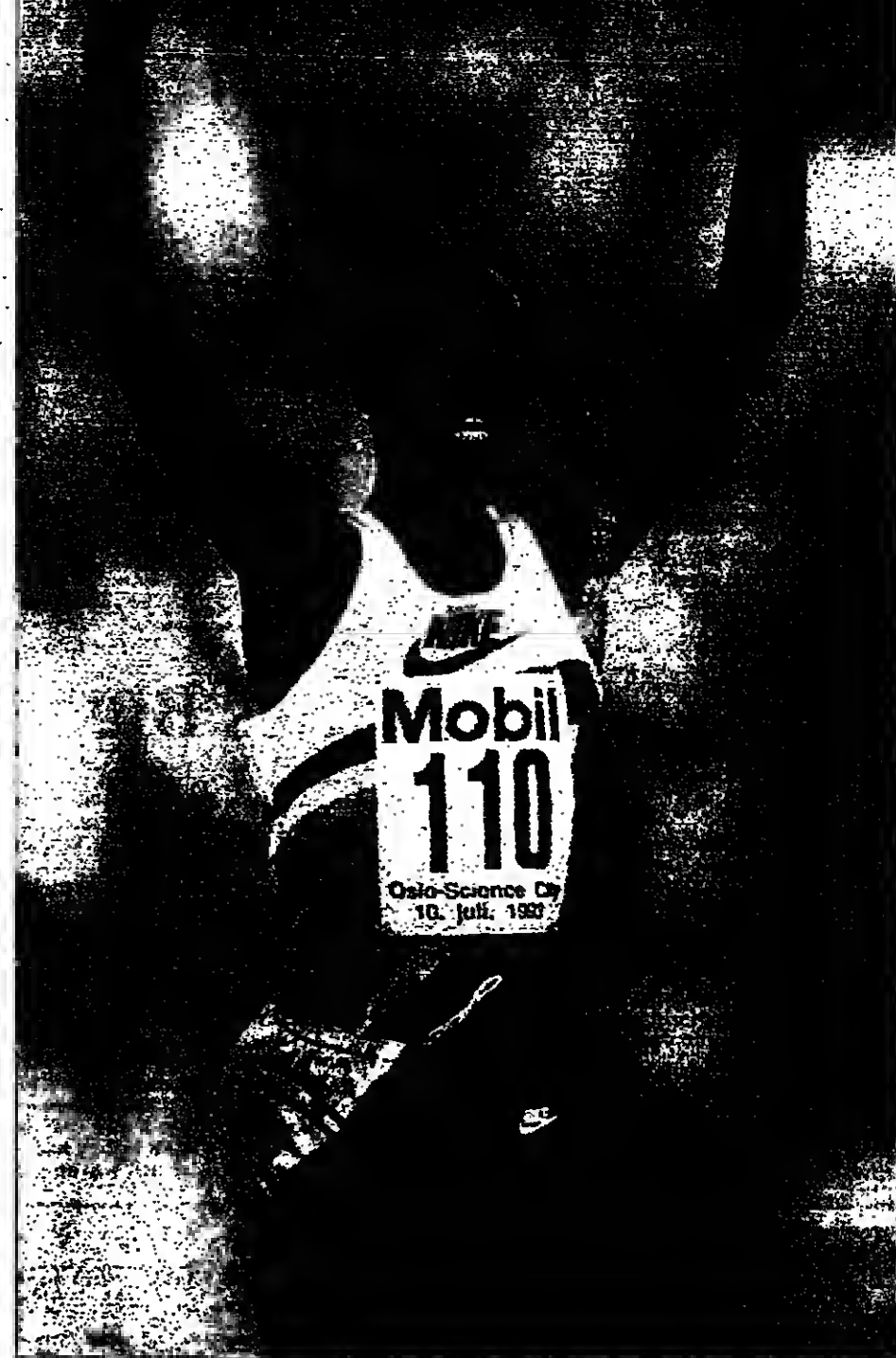
He refused to discuss Stuttgart, but his past remarks, and the opinions expressed by his wife, the Commonwealth marathon champion, Lisa Ondieki, indicate he will not be there. "Let me enjoy this moment before you ask me about the world championships," he said.

However, he has indicated before that he would not be in Stuttgart and Lisa, who confirmed at the London Marathon that she would not be contesting the world championships, said on Saturday: "You cannot expect distance runners to run championships every year." Both believe the International Amateur Athletic Federation has made a mistake in doubling the frequency of world championships to every two years.

The Ondieki live in Flagstaff, Arizona, but never train together. "His easy runs are too fast for me," Lisa said. For the three weeks before Saturday, Yobes had trained at altitude in St Moritz and, so lively was the early speed, that the pacemaker, John Doherty, was overtaken after 1,800 metres. Doherty resumed the lead two laps later but dropped out at 4,000 metres.

That left William Siegel, the world cross-country champion, as Ondieki's only company. They passed 5,000 metres in 13min 25.30sec but, with nine laps to go, Siegel could keep up no more. Ondieki punched out laps around 65 seconds until the last one, a 60-second sprint.

His time was more remarkable for it coming on a chilly, windy evening, in his first 10,000 metres for ten years. Not that the world record insurers were prepared to make allowances. After Chelimo's run in Stockholm they raised their premium to 37.5 per cent of the promoter's \$25,000 record bonus. Bislett decided not to pay and were left to foot the entire amount.



Arms raised in triumph: Ondieki celebrates his world record in Oslo

Grindley wary of sore knee

AN ATHLETE'S greatest fear is not age but injury, which was why David Grindley looked less cheerful than some of his senior British team colleagues in the Bislett stadium (David Powell writes). For those in their late twenties or beyond — Linford Christie, Steve Cram, Martin Steele, Yvonne Murray — the night was uplifting. But Grindley was more solemn, his left knee giving him cause for concern.

The things said about Grindley by the world leaders of his event, Michael Johnson and Butch Reynolds, were recognition of his growing reputation, but the words he wants to hear are from his physiotherapist to be told that the knee pain he is suffering each time he races

will not spoil his season at 400 metres. He has an appointment today.

By defeating Samson Kitur, third at the Olympic Games in Barcelona last year, for the second time in four days, Grindley underlined his potential for a world championship medal in Stuttgart next month. Grindley, who set a British 400 metres record last season at 19 and became a European Cup winner this summer, finished third behind Johnson and Reynolds; he was well beaten in the end, but tried to make a race of it.

"I got a little excited," Grindley said. Excitement can help the mind forget the body's troubles, but not Grindley's knee.

"It is sore again and it is worrying me, I always feel it

on the second turn," he said. Johnson and Reynolds do not see Grindley as a challenger yet, but he has gained their respect, running faster than either at the same age. "His potential is unlimited," Johnson said. "He's 20? Oh, man" was Reynolds's response to hearing his age, so young that he is still European junior champion.

Cram, 32, is having his second youth relaying third in the Dream Mile eight years after setting the world record at Bislett. Though five seconds behind the winner, Noureddine Morceli, who missed Cram's record of 3min 46.32sec by 1.46sec, it was enough to convince him that he should try for the 1,500 metres in Stuttgart, not the 5,000 metres.

Chancery Division

No scope to set aside conditionally

In re a Debtor (No 90 of 1992)
Before Mr Justice Knox
[Judgment June 25]

There was no scope, under the Insolvency Act 1986 and the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925) for any "grey area" to exist, within which the court might deal with an application to set aside a statutory demand on a conditional basis. The demand must either be set aside or upheld.

Mr Justice Knox so held in the Chancery Division, in nevertheless dismissing an appeal by a debtor against an order of District Judge Barrington Ward in Bankruptcy County Court, whereby on the application by the debtor to set a statutory demand by Trustee Savings Bank Scotland plc claiming payment, pursuant to written guarantees (i) relating to Balmuccia Residences Ltd ("Residences") of £50,000 plus interest, and (2) relating to Balmuccia Holdings Ltd ("Holdings"), of £100,000 plus interest, whereby he ordered "that on condition the debtor complying with the statutory demand as to £50,000 within 50 days then the statutory demand be set aside on the ground that all the remainder of the claim is disputed".

Rule 6.5 of the 1986 Rules provides: "4) The court [hearing an application to set aside a statutory demand] may grant the application if ... (b) the debt is disputed on grounds which appear to the court to be substantial; and (c) the court is satisfied, on other grounds, that the demand ought to be set aside."

"(6) If the court dismisses the

application, it shall make an order authorising the creditor to present a bankruptcy petition ..."

Mr Alexander W. Dawson for the debtor Mr Jonathan Russen for the bank.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that as no note had been taken of the district judge's reasons it had not been easy to discover exactly what had been decided, let alone why. It was important both that reasons should be given and that advocates should record them.

The conditional form of the order was argued to be justified by the decision of Mr Justice Ferris in *In re a Debtor (No 517 of 1991)* (The Times November 25, 1991) in which he had set aside a statutory demand for £50,000 on condition that the claimant under the Residences guarantee, unless within 14 days on the ground that there was jurisdiction to make such an order by virtue of the word "may" in rule 6.5, which imported an element of discretion.

But even if, here, the district judge's order was within his powers and could be analysed as setting aside the demand in relation to Holdings, but giving leave to present a bankruptcy petition based on the claim under the Residences guarantee, unless within 50 days the £50,000 were paid, that raised two difficulties: (i) that the order took no account of the interest claimed; and (ii) that the scheme of the 1986 Act and Rules did not contemplate any "grey area" concerning the extent to which a debt was, or was not, the subject of substantial dispute.

The right approach to an application to set aside a statutory demand was expressed by Lord Justice Nicholls in *In re a Debtor (No 1 of 1987)* (1989) 1 WLR 271, 286(F), which Mr Justice Hoffmann in *In re a Debtor (No 49-SD-1991)* (1992) 1 WLR 507 treated as equally applicable to rule 6.5(4)(b). It was not possible for a debtor to be given time to comply with a demand so that if he did, it was set aside, and if he did not, his application to set it aside failed, for several reasons.

First, it was illogical to set aside a demand as invalidly made upon a debtor complying with it.

Second, the statutory demand procedure was not a process of securing judgment, but one of establishing whether a debtor should be treated as unable to pay a debt immediately payable, something essentially different from proceedings under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, Order 14 made specific provision for conditional judgments, which were particularly appropriate to the grey areas inhabited by shadowy defences.

Third, the rules themselves contemplated a definitive route, rather than a conditional outcome, in that if the regulations failed (i) under rule 6.5(4) the court was positively required to authorise the creditor to present a bankruptcy petition, and (ii) as from the date of failure, the time for compliance with the demand began again to run.

On hearing his Lordship's doubts about the propriety of the district judge's order, Mr Dawson had urged that his setting aside of

the statutory demand should stand and the condition be held invalid. But that would be wrong, as obviously contrary both to the judge's intention and to the evidence before him.

His last submission was that credit should have been given under rule 6.1(3) for the value of a property mortgaged by the debtor to the bank, since by the time of the demand the bank had gone into possession.

There was however no foundation for saying that a debt secured by a mortgage was reduced by the property's value on expiry, if and when it was sold, the proceeds became subject, in the mortgagee's hands, to the trusts set out in section 105 of the Law of Property Act 1925 and at that stage those trusts would be relevant to the debt.

No challenge had been made to his Lordship's own decision in *In re a Debtor (No 310 of 1988)* (1989) 1 WLR 452 to the effect that "any security in respect of the debt" in rule 6.1(3) had to be "security over any property of the person by whom the debt was owed", so the instant security had not needed to be included in the statutory demand itself.

Accordingly, the district judge had been right in the conclusion which his Lordship believed he had reached: namely, that there was not sufficient substantial ground for dispute of the debt of £50,000 to warrant setting aside the statutory demand.

The debtor's appeal would therefore be dismissed.

Solicitors: Mr Kenneth Garber, Canterbury; Denison Till, York.

Law Report July 12 1993

Presenting bankruptcy petition

A Debtor v Focus Insurance Co Ltd (in Liquidation)
Before Mr Justice Mummery
[Judgment June 8]

Notwithstanding an outstanding application by the debtor to set aside a statutory demand in accordance with rules 6.4 and 6.5 of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925), the petitioning creditor was entitled to present an expedited bankruptcy petition pursuant to section 270 of the Insolvency Act 1986, the provisions of which overrode the requirement in section 267(2)(a) that the petition might only be presented if there was no outstanding application to set aside the statutory demand.

Mr Justice Mummery so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal by the debtor against the refusal of Judge Clegg, sitting in Colchester County Court on June 2 to make an order, *inter alia*, that the bankruptcy petition presented against him on May 20, 1993 by the petitioning creditor should be dismissed immediately without any investigation of the grounds stated in the petition.

The debtor in person, Mr David Ashton for the creditor.

MR JUSTICE MUMMERY said that on April 4 a statutory demand for £15,472.72 was served by the petitioning creditors on the debtor. On May 4, the debtor issued an application to set aside the demand. On May 20 the joint liquidators presented a petition for a bankruptcy order which stated that the debt was owing and unsecured and that the debtor appeared unable to pay it.

The petition referred to the statutory demand and stated that since the demand was served it had not been nor would be complied with nor set aside in accordance with the rules.

The petition, which did not contain any reference to the outstanding application by the debtor to set aside the demand, stated that there was a serious possibility that the debtor's property and/or its value would be significantly diminished within the three-week period following the date of service of the demand.

The appeal came on in the vacation as an urgent matter in view of a pending hearing on June 9. On June 2 Judge Clegg when dismissing the debtor's application, held that the joint liquidators were entitled to present the petition to set aside the demand, in breach of the statutory provisions or the rules and there had been no abuse of process.

The conditions set out in section 267(2) of the 1986 Act provided: "(a) the debt ... is a debt which the debtor appears either to be unable to pay or to have no reasonable prospect of being able to pay and (b) there is no outstanding application to set aside a statutory demand served under section 268 below in respect of the debt ..."

Section 268 defined "inability to pay" as a debt by reference to failure to comply, within three weeks of it being served, with a prescribed form of statutory demand which had not been set aside in accordance with the rules.

The procedure for setting aside a statutory demand was laid down in rules 6.4 and 6.5 of the 1986 Rules. The debtor could apply to set aside the demand within 18 days from the date of service of the demand. As from the date, on which the application was filed in court, the time limited for compliance with the statutory demand ceased to run subject to any order of the court under rule 6.5(6).

Rule 6.8(2) was of particular importance and provided: "Where the debt is one for which, under section 268, a statutory demand must have been served on the debtor ... (a) it shall be stated that, to the best of the creditor's knowledge and belief ... (i) the demand has neither been complied with nor set aside in accordance with the rules and (ii) no application to set it aside is outstanding."

Having referred to the debtor's compliance with his Lordship said that the opening words of section 267(2) stated: "Subject to the next three sections, a creditor's petition may be presented to the court in respect of a debt ... if the conditions in (a), (b), (c) and (d) are satisfied."

One of the three sections to which section 267(2) was subject was section 270 which provided:

"In the case of a creditor's petition presented wholly or partly in respect of a debt which is the subject of a statutory demand under section 268, the petition may be presented before the end of the three week period there mentioned if there is a serious possibility that the debtor's property ... will be significantly diminished during that period and the petition contains a statement to that effect."

That provision should be read with section 271(2).

The question raised by the debtor's submissions was whether a petition could be presented under section 270 at a time when there was an outstanding application to set aside the statutory demand on which the petition was based.

In summing up the legal position, his Lordship said, *inter alia*: "1 The requirement in section 267(2) did not necessarily apply to every case and was expressly made 'subject to' section 270."

2 Where a statutory provision was expressed to be 'subject to' another statutory provision, the latter, the master provision, prevailed over the former, the subject provision, if there was any conflict, see *C. and J. Clark Ltd v IRC* (1973) 1 WLR 905, 911 B-C, affirmed on appeal (1975) 1 WLR 413.

Purchase is expansion of existing business

Maidsment (Inspector of Taxes) v Kirby and Another
Before Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor
[Judgment June 18]

A taxpayer acquiring a new business as a going concern had thereby expanded his existing trade and had not succeeded to a new one. The combined profits from the new and the existing trade were thus assessable to Schedule D income tax on a preceding year basis and not under the commencement provisions of section 154 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970; see, now, section 113 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a determination of Monmouth general commissioners upholding appeals by the taxpayers, Alan and Margaret Kirby, against assessments raised on them for 1987-88 and 1988-89 on their profits as fish fryers.

Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown; Mr Giles Goodfellow for the taxpayers.

The taxpayer acquired a new business as a going concern and had thereby expanded his existing trade and had not succeeded to a new one. The combined profits from the new and the existing trade were thus assessable to Schedule D income tax on a preceding year basis and not under the commencement provisions of section 154 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970; see, now, section 113 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

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Robinson victory worthy of home advantage

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

STEVE Robinson, from Cardiff, the World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion, is almost certain to have home advantage for his difficult defence against Colin McMillan, from London, the former champion, at the end of September or October.

The crowd support at the ice rink, Cardiff, on Saturday, where Robinson met Sean Murphy, was so good that Barry Hearn, the promoter, wants to keep him boxing in South Wales.

A ninth-round victory over Murphy has ensured a sell-out for the match with McMillan at a leading venue in South Wales because Robinson's performance will be seen by the Welsh to be better than that of McMillan, who had to go the distance to outpoint the St Albans boxer.

Hearn, together with Robinson's manager, Dai Gardiner, believes Robinson will not only beat McMillan but Paul Hodgkinson as well. "When he fought Paul Harvey in Cardiff he drew only 300, tonight he had 3,500. He's becoming a bigger and bigger attraction with every fight," Hearn said after the bout on Saturday.

Knocking out Murphy was not exactly the most difficult of tasks bearing in mind that Murphy has never had an easy contest in his 25-bout career. But it was Robinson's controlled aggression and well-placed blows that impressed the crowd.

He bowed from behind a tight defence and gradually raised the pace, flooring Murphy with a left hook. Murphy appeared to rise at ten but Roy Francis, the referee, thought he had not beaten the count.

McMillan was also impressed. "He has come on tremendously," he said. "He believes in himself, he's very strong and very fit. I feel confident I can beat him but it's not going to be easy."

Applicant must comply with requirements

Jones and Another v Zahedi
Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Mann and Lord Justice Peter Gibson
[Judgment July 2]

An unassisted party who sought an order for costs against the Legal Aid Board under section 18 of the Legal Aid Act 1988 on the ground that he would otherwise suffer severe financial hardship was required to comply in all significant respects with the requirements of Schedule 2 to the Civil Legal Aid (General) Regulations (SI 1989 No 339) by providing a full affidavit of costs and resources which included the matters specified in that schedule.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by the defendant, Mr Michael Zahedi, from Judge Wigney's ruling at Bristol County Court who had refused to make an order for costs in his favour against the Legal Aid Board following the dismissal by the judge of a claim brought against Mr Zahedi by the plaintiff, Mr David Jones and Mrs John Kempster, who had been legally aided.

On the defendant's application, for costs under section 18 the judge adjourned the matter under regulation 138. Within 21 days the

defendant was required by regulation 142 to file an affidavit of costs and resources, defined as an affidavit which included the matters specified in Schedule 2 to the 1989 Regulations. The defendant had sworn an affidavit which failed to comply with the schedule in substantial ways and on the adjourned hearing he had given oral evidence in an attempt to make good that deficiency.

Mr David Fletcher for Mr Zahedi; Mr Nigel Pitt for the board.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that section 18 was enacted to rectify the injustice which had been shown to arise where an unassisted party, obliged to finance litigation out of his own pocket, was threatened with severe financial hardship as the result of proceedings in which he had succeeded and his opponent had been funded by the board. The court should not construe the regulations in a way which would remove or cut down what was plainly intended to be a valuable statutory right.

The scope of the regulations was wide, covering many matters other than applications under section 18. But they did regulate such applica-

tions, which were for compensation out of public funds. That being so, it was unsurprising that the procedure for application was prescribed with some degree of particularity and stringency.

The regulations were drawn so as to ensure that the board was fully informed of, and so put in a position to evaluate, the applicant's financial position.

While it was of course for the court of first instance to decide in any given case whether the hardship condition in section 18(4)(b) was satisfied, the regulations were designed to ensure that that decision was made on the basis of full information and after the paying party had received the information needed to resist an order.

The court might properly overlook any technical, formal or insignificant failure to comply with the requirements of the schedule, and it might well be that the court need not take notice of any deficiency of which the paying party did not complain.

But it would be contrary to the intent and the language of the regulations to hold that the court could properly make an order in favour of an applicant who had failed to comply with the schedule in a significant respect of which the

board complained, unless the applicant could show that he could not in all the circumstances comply in the relevant respect.

While it would always be open to the board to apply to cross-examine the applicant on his affidavit, the applicant was not entitled to sue to make good deficiencies in his affidavit by oral evidence tendered at the hearing, although the court might permit him to do so if there was no objection by the board.

His Lordship referred to the instances of non-compliance in the defendant's affidavit which were not technical, formal or insignificant.

As the court read his judgment, the judge had refused the application because he concluded that the defendant had not discharged the burden of showing that he would suffer severe financial hardship if an order were not made. He was right so to decide.

If the judge had concluded that the defendant's failure to comply with the schedule was of such significance as to make good deficiencies in his affidavit by oral evidence tendered at the hearing, the judge would have been right to refuse the application. The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Humphreys & Co, Bristol; Mr J. R. Stevens, Bristol.

مركز لدراسة



THEATRE page 28
The plight of the city of
Sarajevo is obliquely
expressed in a play
touring western Europe

ARTS

BOOKS page 29
A moralist who likes
absurdity: R.K. Narayan,
whose latest is reviewed
by Victoria Glendinning



Who put the camp in campus?

Under the guise of media studies, soap operas and light entertainment are now the stuff of theses and dissertations. Clive Davis expresses doubts

A scene from academic life. 1993. A student knocks at the door of her lecturer's office. She wants to return an item that she has borrowed. A textbook perhaps? A learned journal or a novel? No, it is in fact a video cassette containing — what? *Citizen Kane*? *Lawrence of Arabia*? No, the first six episodes of that epic masterpiece, *Eldorado*.

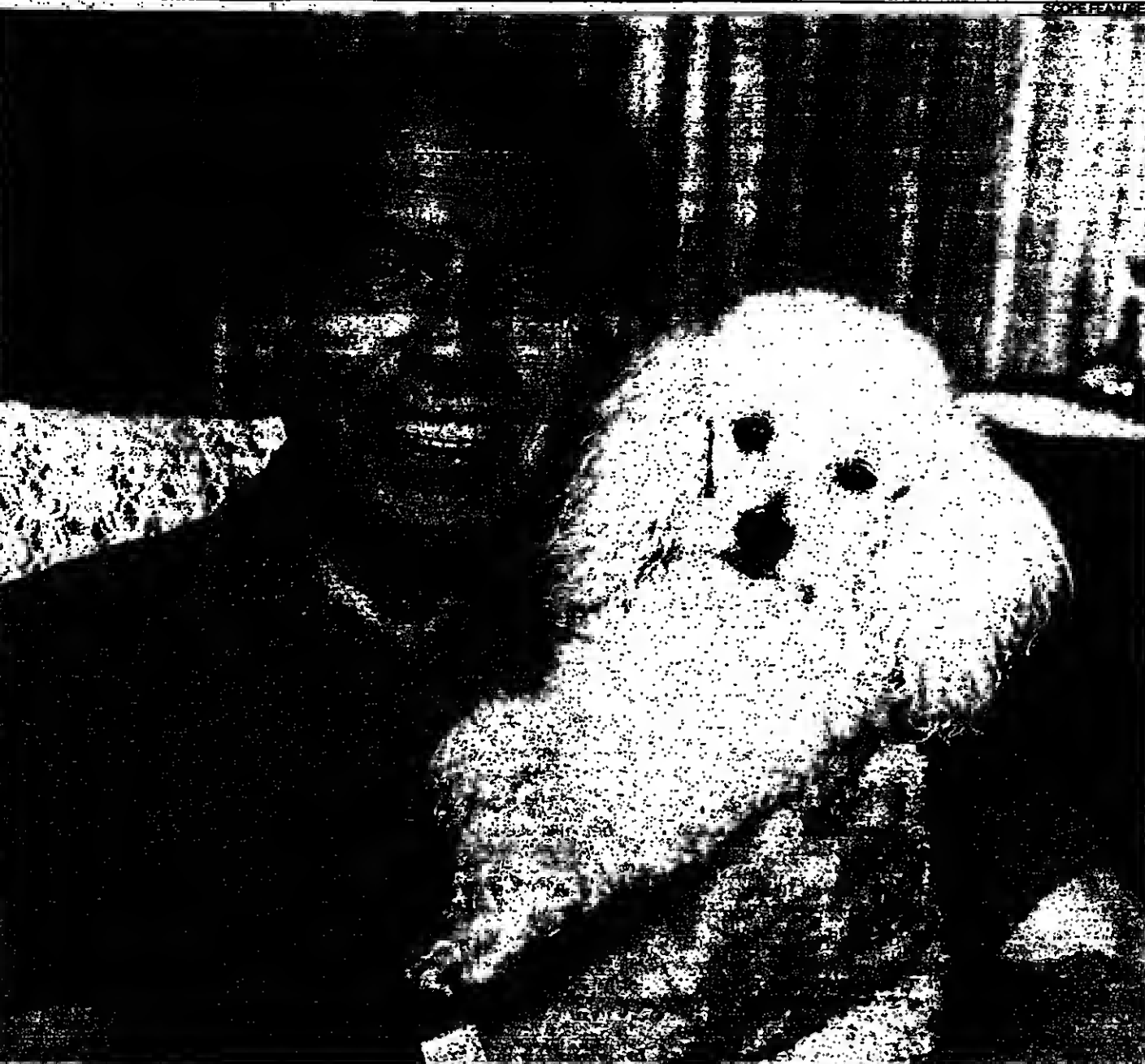
Welcome to Sussex University's Media Studies department, a centre where undergraduates can devote their time to writing dissertations on soap operas, teenybopper groups and sitcoms. As the lecturer Andy Medhurst points out, this is now the most popular degree course at the university, attracting around 2,500 applicants.

Medhurst will be furthering the cause next Tuesday when he delivers a lecture at the South Bank's Museum of the Moving Image. His subject will be the "problematic persona" of Larry Grayson, the camp Seventies comedian renowned for his duets with Noël Coward and his catchphrase "Shut that door." Rumour has it that Larry may even turn up in the audience.

Times change. When Richard Hoggart founded Birmingham University's Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies in 1964, the notion that popular culture might be a fit subject for detailed analysis was far from universally accepted. Thirty years later the barriers are down. Every semiotologist in the land has something to say about Madonna's underwear: serious publishers are producing weighty tomes like the forthcoming *Cultural Studies Reader*, and the most fashionable magazine in town (or, at least, in the vicinity of the Groucho Club) is *The Modern Review*, the current issue of which includes lengthy articles on *Knots Landing* and those cute puppets known as The Cloggers.

You do not have to be an unreconstructed elitist to find all this somewhat unsettling. When you read Hoggart's *The Uses of Literacy* or Raymond Williams's *The Long Revolution*, you sense that they are alert to the best of popular culture. To an outsider, today's practitioners often seem either extraordinarily undiscriminating, or obsessed with the most ephemeral aspects of modern taste.

How much do we learn from essays such as "Monster Metaphors: Notes on Michael Jackson's Thriller" or "Being Discovered: The Emergence of Female Address on MTV" — two of the titles in the



No poodle-faking: Comedian Larry Grayson (with a pet dog, subject of a lecture at the Museum of the Moving Image next week)

newly published *Sound and Vision: The Music Video Reader*. Driven by a misguided version of egalitarianism, the new breed of cultural critics and their followers are in danger of reducing everything to a bland, non-judgmental "lifestyle" supermarket where

Nintendo games are on the shelf next to Mozart. A 34-year-old graduate of Sussex and the University of East Anglia, Andy Medhurst mounts a spirited rear-guard action. Though the bookshelves in his cluttered office hold the requisite quota of Barthes

and Gramsci, his conversation is free of the usual structuralist and quasi-Marxist jargon. And he has a refreshing sense of self-mocking humour. Ring his answering machine, and you hear the message: "Either I'm out or you've rung during an important soap opera."

He confesses to a passion for the Pet Shop Boys and for *Come Dancing*. In all he gets more pleasure, he says, from Kylie Minogue than from Wagner. Kylie, you see, is all about being drunk and dancing in a club. "People have a deep emotional commitment to

popular culture. I love Shakespeare, but I don't have the same emotional investment in it.

There's this idea that all we do is sit around saying "Oh, wasn't that record great?" Another misconception is that we think soaps are better than Shakespeare. That's not the point — they're a genre in the same way that opera is a genre. I'm not teaching *Eldorado* because of its intrinsic qualities but because of what it tells us about society. It raises questions about taste, Europe and how the popular press covers the European Community."

Hence his interest in Larry Grayson, who was — let's be honest — a comic whose act seemed to consist wholly of limp *doubles entendres*. Medhurst, who laughingly describes the lecture as "a move towards career suicide", is reluctant to give too much away in advance. Suffice to say that he views Grayson as a key figure in the portrayal of homosexuals in the mass media. His sudden rise to popularity, notes Medhurst, coincided with the sexually ambiguous "glam-rock" era and the rise of gay rights issues.

So now you know. Over at *The Modern Review* the general tone is even less earnest. In the two years since the magazine was born Julie Burchill and her acolytes have launched regular attacks on the pretensions of the Cultural Studies brigade and "sandal-wearing academics" in general. The house style is brash, cynical and aggressive. Here is the place to read about "the bodacious sex appeal" of Keanu Reeves or the joys of Super Mario Bros.

Occasionally, the formula works. But the lasting impression is that the *Review* is the sixth-form magazine we all wished we'd had when we were at school. Shocking the grown-ups is the main priority. It is as if those nice, well-bred contributors really do think it is daring to write an article on Nike shoes or *Coronation Street*. Time to grow up, I think.

• "At Home with Larry Grayson", a lecture by Andy Medhurst, at the Museum of the Moving Image, South Bank, London SE1, 071-922 3223 on July 20 at 7.30pm. Is part of Out of the Archives II, a season centred on television programmes and drama from the 1960s and 1970s with homosexual themes and characters. At Momi and the adjoining National Film Theatre tomorrow and on July 22, 27 and 29. • The *Cultural Studies Reader* is published by Routledge (£40 hardback, £10.99 paperback) on July 29.

TELEVISION

Oh baby, you're out of time

Leaving aside the money, the fame and the Hollywood hunches, it must be quite hard to be Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais. Everywhere they go, well-meaning nerds must forever be saying, "Loved the new series, Ian, but not a patch on *The Likely Lads*. And wasn't *Porridge* one of yours, Dick? Mm, a far cry from *Porridge* as well." Brave of them, in such circumstances, to come up with *Over the Rainbow* (ITV) which, to judge by last night's first episode, not only has "not a patch, sorry" written all over it, but sports an old-fashioned central buddy duo — Neil and Spence (Peter Sullivan and Ian Targett) — that makes any halfway sentimental comedy-lover openly pine and snivel for the days of Bob and Terry and Fletch and Godber.

The sense of déjà vu pervading *Over the Rainbow* was so strong it amounted almost to a mystical experience. Where have we seen those two larky Irish girl singers before (Angelina Ball and Bronagh Gallagher), reaching for success in a feel-good pub band? Well, in *The Commitments*, obviously, where they played substantially the same roles (screenplay: Clement and La Frenais). Phew, that one was easy. Other throwbacks were unfortunately less specific in origin, but they made you frown and shiver nonetheless.

I mean, where have we seen Neil before — the stone-faced comic stooge coming out of prison with a large whitened lampstand? *Citizen Smith? Some Mothers? Minder?* The lampstand device is definitely there somewhere. Neil plonks it down on the table and explains for the third time, "It's a lampstand," and it feels like a dear old friend. And where have we seen Peter Sullivan's promising, well-honed deadpan before? In David Jason, Robert Lindsay, Ronnie Barker.

So here was a contemporary story about the rock scene — two girls, two boys, and a pub in Brighton — which, aside from the odd, jarring pop-culture reference ("It was like *Stevie Wonder touched my face*"), would have been written at any time since 1965. When Neil and Spence are introduced in a pub to a grizzled, puffy, stone-dead safe-blower, the scene is so much like a trip down the time tunnel that you grip the arms of the sofa, for fear of being sucked away and deposited in the 14th century.

"Tell them what you can do!" is the shouted instruction. The deaf safe-blower grins, nods, misses the point. "I can play 'Flirty' the Bumble Bee... backwoods," he says proudly. "On the 'armonica.' Someone whispers hastily in his ear. Light dawns. Oh, yes. 'I can blow a fever off a pigeon's chest... Poof!'"

You have to admit it, they don't make cockney villains like that any more. In fact, they haven't made cockney villains much like that since the days of Ealing Studios.

It is perfectly true that most successful sitcoms operate in such a warm, soft temporal limbo; comedy has no obligation to be gritty and realistic. It just seems out of place when the subject is youth culture, that's all — especially when *The Commitments* lowers behind it, promising more than it can give. In future weeks, Neil and Spence will not only fight for the love of Finn (Angelina Ball) but also promote the band, which will surely be difficult without reference to the real world. Perhaps *Over the Rainbow* should have been set in 1970s — it could have cashed in on the current fashion revival while making its innocence a virtue.

LYNNE TRUSS



Angelina Ball: band singer in the series *Over the Rainbow*

OPERA: A musically thin world premiere in north London and an entertaining new Cimarosa production which is going on tour

Short of notes

There is only one thing more difficult than writing good comedy, and that is writing good comic opera. Alexander Ostrovsky tried the first, and in his play *A Family Affair* wrote a dark yet dazzling genre piece, detected by the Moscow censor in 1851 and taken to the hearts of all who saw the Cheek by Jowl company's surreal production of 1988.

All this greatly encouraged the composer Julian Grant, who seized on the play, in Nick Dear's canny and appropriate coarse translation, and has now found himself with a world premiere as the second show in this year's Almeida Opera Festival at the Islington theatre.

The attraction of Ostrovsky's play is easy to understand. It has pace, ambiguity, verbal vigour (admirably recreated in this translation) and, something on which Grant particularly focuses in his programme note, a gallery of crooked characters begging to be humiliated by music.

But it would take a saint or a genius to do this. So strong is their delineation, verging on caricature, that it would take music of greater nerve and muscle than Grant has

A Family Affair Almeida

written to give them a heart as well. As it is the score, for chamber ensemble, and deftly played by the Almeida Ensemble under Nicholas Kok, is a misfortune. There is pastiche — including Sauter and Weill perhaps consciously, Britten and silent-film music perhaps subconsciously — plus neat, easily recognisable "tag" motifs, and its somewhat thin melodic ideas are transformed both cautiously and predictably.

The work is neatly written and neatly scored, just as Martin Duncan's production is characterised by many a moment of neat business and neat characterisation. Richard Stuart has a valiant crack at Bolebov, the scheming, credit-riden merchant, just as Geoffrey Dalton finds a nice curl of the lip and oiling of the tongue for his assistant, later his son-in-law, Lazar.

Christine Bunning as his wife and Nerys Jones as his daughter etch out their cameos faithfully. As



Deft comic portrayals: Nerys Jones and Geoffrey Dalton

a central moral pivot, the skeletal, vodka-swilling solicitor Rispokubensky is given virtuoso portraiture by John Graham Hall.

Such comedy as there is (plenty, if you like to roar uncontrollably at words such as bugger, arse and balls) comes from the sheer flair of their performances. But if their heightened declamation were to

drop to mere speech, little, perhaps, would be lost. The instrumental music, increasingly tiresome as the evening draws on, too often seems little more than a background to a comedy which would have been sharper, brisker and simply funnier if left well alone.

HILARY FINCH

Happy union of intentions

Dating from 1792, *Il matrimonio segreto* is one of those comparatively few operas in which the libretto is better than the music. The clandestine marriage of the title — Bertini's text is based on Colman's and Garrick's play of 1766 — is revealed to the audience at curtain-rise, and everything flows neatly and logically from the Big Lie, as in the best Feydeau and Orton farces. The way that the audience is let in on the secret from the outset engenders a delicious sense of conspiratorial collusion between auditorium and stage.

Cimarosa's 18th-century-by-the-yard score, rewarding to sing, always craftsmanlike, seldom memorable, buidles along cheerfully in the wake of the plot, oiling the hinges but little more. When a genius such as Rossini, many of whose effects are here in embryo, met mechanical plots of this sort, great opera was the result. And there's the difference: Rossini's gift for characterisation through music turned farce into comedy.

But *The Secret Marriage* makes for a very agreeable evening's entertainment, and Jonathan Miller's new production for Opera North at the Cheltenham Festival (later in the month it will be moving on to Buxton) is sheer delight from start to finish.

It is dominated by two outside, quintessentially Millerian comedy performances. As the rich merchant Gerónimo, whose younger daughter Carolina is secretly married to his secretary Paolino, Andrew Shore creates a character all the more hilarious for its being deadly serious.

The man's greed, inebriety and self-importance, projected through fierce, J.B. Priestley-like north country vowel-sounds, are somehow made wholly lovable, even when his eyes gleam like the headlights of a Hispano-Suiza at the mention of a profitable adjustment to a marriage settlement. A singer who can thus play Wozzeck and Gerónimo in quick succession and with such complete mastery

The Secret Marriage. Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

is a jewel in our operatic crown. Then there's Jonathan Best's English *milord*, Count Robinson, an irresistible portrait of gangling, myopic condescension with a fatuous, fixed glassy smirk. His lechery — he is promised to the elder daughter but fancies the one who is secretly married — is unmistakably English in its diffidence.

Best and Shore add the odd spoken line to Cimarosa's recitative, which may upset purists but which brings extra spice to the action, as do the anachronisms in both the production (phantom cricket strokes) and in Simon Rees's intricately rhymed, sparky new translation. The only possible criticism of the production is that the rehearsals must have been even funnier than the public performance.

The rest of the cast resolutely declines to be upstaged by these two monsters. Anne Dawson's gamely sung, spirited Carolina gives as good as she gets from Kate Egan as Elisetta, the single sister who gets ideas above her station even before arriving at the platform. Tamsin Dives plays Gerónimo's amorous sister, who inevitably makes a set for the married Paolino, with tact and a predatory gleam, and Mark Curtis is the helplessly put-upon secretary. I can imagine some of these roles being slightly better sung, but not more vividly portrayed.

I can scarcely imagine the score (which has been trimmed by three numbers) being more neatly played than it is by the English Northern Philharmonia under Roy Langhorne's sprightly direction. Sets (John Conkling) and costumes (Stephen Rodwell) are simple and elegant. An evening of undemanding but genuine pleasure.

RODNEY MILNES

ROCK: One of 1988's brightest prospects, still among the hopefuls five years on

At her best when she takes things easy

When Mica Paris reached the Top 10 in early 1988 with the confident debut single "My One Temptation", it seemed Britain might at last have produced a pop-soul diva who could give the American greats a run for their money.

Such optimism was tempered only slightly by the subsequent release of a formulaic first album, largely based on material too doleful to match her big voice and flamboyant personality. In 1990 her second album, although a more personal affair, met with little enthusiasm from record buyers, however. So it is unsurprising to find that on its recent successor, *Whisper a Prayer*, Paris has been harnessed to a songwriter and producer, who is

particularly skilled at retreating the careers of names who have strayed from the charts.

Narada Michael Walden has worked his magic on a wide variety of acts, including Aretha Franklin, each time by placing them within the context either of lush, melodic dance-tracks or glitter-strewn soul ballads. It is his collaborations with an artist in absolutely no need of career rehabilitation that have won him most plaudits however, hence the Whitney Houston-esque patina around which this first of Paris's two London shows was built. Dispensing with that long-gone debut hit and its follow-up "Breathe

Life Into Me" immediately upon taking the stage, she then

launched straight into her comeback success "I Never Felt Like This Before", enjoyable enough as an exercise in Walden-by-numbers but too busy in structure to make any real demands on her interpretative skills.

These she has in abundant measure, as the less flashy numbers — "I Wanna Hold Onto You" and "You Put A Move On My Heart" among them — proved beyond doubt. Even so, the contemporary but uninspired feel to much of the material offered only limited scope for the singer's bold and at times lascivious vocal style. To-

wards the end of the evening Paris kicked off her shoes for comfort, asserting that she was too much a product of London to be able to maintain American-style glamour throughout the show.

An earlier and relaxed rendition of "Any Old Sunday", in friendly tribute to the American star Chaka Khan, who was herself playing in town on the same evening, had proved how much better the sounds when being similarly laissez-faire about her music. Five years into her career, Paris still needs to find a way to consolidate her commercial standing without inhibiting the development of her art.

ALAN JACKSON

Mica Paris
Grand, Clapham.

LONDON

SUNSET BOULEVARD. Opening night of Andrew Lloyd Webber's latest musical, based on Billy Wilder's 1950 film, with Broadway star Patti LaBelle. Trevor Nunn directs. Adelphi, Strand, WC2 (071-344 0065). Tonight, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm.

CELESTINE FLAUBERT. Film director Ken MacMillan presents his first full-length theatre piece, a multimedia version of the Oedipus myth combining text, clips from previous films and staged readings from scriptwriters. Southwark Theatre, Southwark, SE1 (071-242 7040). Preview tonight, 8pm; opens tomorrow, 8pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm.

PARTNERS. Annalya Judd's summer exhibition traces the history and mutual influence of 11 pairs of famous married artists from the early 20th century and the rise of contemporary art.

Academy of Art, 23, Dorset Street, W1 (071-639 7578). Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm, Sat, 10am-5pm, until Sept 16.

225TH SUMMER EXHIBITION. In the last couple of years, there has been a more comfortable integration of abstract with representational, the more dramatic sculpture has been replaced with a more subtle, and the whole enterprise seems to have taken on a new lease of life.

One hopes that the 225th will continue. Spurred by Guinness.

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7439). Daily, 10am-6pm, until August 15.

MILGROVE WILLER TWO. The New York-based pianist, who was a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers during the 1960s, fronts his own trio.

Jazz Cafe, Parkway, NW1 (071-710 0000). Tonight, tomorrow, 7pm.

REGIONAL

BIRMINGHAM. The London Philharmonic Youth Orchestra was formed last year and has performed at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

It now embarks on a national tour visiting five key cities.

The programme comprises Tchaikovsky's fantasy overture, Romeo and Juliet, Stravinsky's suite The Firebird and Beethoven's Ninth.

The 22-year-old Laura Gae conducts.

Admission: South Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire (01-232 2333), 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, none only

Some seats available

Sales at all prices

BACKSTAGE IN A CROWDED

POOL. Racist violence and animal in

Household uncertain at times but full of

quality promise.

Buck, Shepherd's Bush Green, W12

(071-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

120mins. Extended to July 24.

CITY OF ANGELS. Top quality

Larry O'Connell's Coleman musical.

Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1

(071-499 5772). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 150mins.

COMEDIANS. Tim McInerney plays

the bitter and rejected comic in a well-

staged revival of Trevor Griffiths's play.

Lyric Theatre, King Street, W6

(071-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

CHAZZ FOR YOU. Thrillingly

staged new version of the Graham

Smith musical. Old Court Street, W1

(071-724 0851). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

ELLEGES FOR ANGELS. Punks

and raging queens. A tribute in

verse and song to American dead

from Act 1. Cottesloe, W1 (071-384 4488).

Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 10pm, Sun, 4.30pm and 7.30pm.

THE INVISIBLE MAN. A major

planning adaptation becomes

unravelling when the magic tricks take

over the action.

Comedy, Fenton Street, SW1 (071-867 1045).

Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN.

Eden Newsham gives her first

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

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THEATRE: An oblique play from out of the besieged city, plus an Orton double-bill revived

Sideways glance at Balkan tragedy

Sarajevo
Riverside Studios

THE author, Goran Stefanovski, asks the right questions in the London International Festival of Theatre brochure: "How does one write a play about Sarajevo today? How does one dare touch an open wound? How does one shoot at a moving target? I have no good answers, and I am not sure he does either."

His *Sarajevo* is not exploitative, not egotistical. On the contrary, it is full of melancholy concern for a city he doubtless knows extremely well. But suppose that in 1943 a troupe of Jews had toured the free world with a play that used elaborate and somewhat attenuated performance art to evoke their feelings about the Holocaust. Wouldn't there be something, well, insufficient about such an endeavour?

Insufficient as there is a story, it involves Sara, a wounded girl in a sailor suit who dreams of Sarajevo as it is and might be. Some of what she sees has a certain impact. Men in scout-like uniforms strut about saluting and reassuring each other that "only 157,000 will die this winter". A hard man pushes a shaking, naked man to the ground, while others ask "do you want soup? Is it true they made you put each other's genitals in your mouth?"

A wife shouts at her patriotic husband that she needs him, "not your glorious ancestors, not the dead". A fleeing couple, finding the airport closed, are grimly told, "you are in Sarajevo, but Sarajevo is not here, it has gone away."

In this somewhat low-key way, Sarajevo's suffering is made apparent, as is the absurdity of nationalist posturing in a region where every-



At the Riverside Studios, the cast of *Sarajevo* convey "only the airiest notion of what Sarajevo is like"

body's tribal make-up is complex. But Stefanovski is less effective at communicating what he calls "the soul of the city". The characters chant out their ennui — "this city had gardens once, now only graveyards" — and act out antique tales. They whirl about with white white lights in their skirts. At one bizarre point, they even fluster round the stage crying "I am a stork". But

they left me with only the airiest notion of what Sarajevo is like, and none of what can and should be done to save it. Well, I am not a refugee, nor have I lost my family to Serbian shells. How can I cross critical swords with Stefanovski, Slobodan Unkovski and the largely Balkan cast they have taken on tour to Antwerp, Hamburg and now London? Yet as one of the west-

Europeans they wish to reach and influence I would, I suspect, have felt more moved and challenged had three or four actors sat on chairs and straightforwardly told me what it was like to live in Sarajevo. As it is, immediacy is mostly missing: so is outrage, pain and a lot else.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Camping for England

The device would work well on film, providing a frame for both plays and an unspoken epilogue when, after the riot and bloodshed in *The Erpingham Camp*, the little Islington flat freezes with the imminence of death.

Ruffian on the *Star* gets the evening off to an uncertain start. Has the play dated, or do young actors now lack the irony to relish the invisible quotation marks with which Orton delighted to deck his carefully honed clichés? In retrospect, this is the most Pinteresque of Orton's works. The hermetic existence of Mike and Joyce recalls Pinter and Meg in *The Birthday Party*. "Tin

seeing a man who could put me in touch with something," is a line worthy of the Poet of the Unspoken himself. But too often, heavy facetiousness weighs down the menace that should hover, as the mysterious young man throws out signals both homoerotic and threatening. Scott Harvey, playing Orton, moves in and out of the action reading stage directions — a further distancing device.

If *Ruffian* recalls Pinter, *Erpingham* is Pinterian. The production starts cheekily with the company prancing on to the strains of "Keep Young and Beautiful", all teeth, smiles and (beach)

balls, complete with a priest who lifts his skirts to reveal leather shorts to the lines "don't fail to do your stuff, with a little powder and a puff".

Willmott's direction is so busy underlining everything with music that the allegory of England as holiday camp (in two decades the Sixties vision would be superseded by Britain as theme park) topples into juvenile romping. An energetic cast works wonders, but a French performance at Edinburgh two years ago made the point more dangerously. A sense of danger, in fact, is fatally missing from this double-bill despite frenetic jollity from Dom Boydell, Hannah Smith and Michael Mawby as the powers behind the despoil fun camp that is forever England.

MARTIN HOYLE

CONCERT: An ingenious audio-visual experiment

Brush with Mussorgsky

travelling and painting on a transparent medium illuminated from below. Perryman seemed not in the least inhibited by Hartmann's originals. The vast enlargements of what he was doing, projected onto a screen, only once showed a narrative element taking shape: that was when they came to *Two Polish Jews*, and what might have been a bearded figure emerged on the left

and what was certainly someone in a begging posture appeared on the right.

Otherwise Perryman's imagery was conceived. Initial disappointment that it was mostly based on previously prepared material and that all of it was pre-calculated gave way to recognition that the effect of the brushwork derived largely from its precise timing. Even

the most immediate response to events in the music would be too late.

There were rhythmic ballets for one or two brushes: there were broad slashes of paint chosen according to the colours of Ravel's orchestration and vigorous splashes timed to match the dramatic articulation of Mussorgsky's constructions; and there were more serene sequences in which liquid shades drifted slowly across.

One failure in synchronisation left the screen blank for a while. But the audience must have been impressed by the configuration of fiery and bloody reds mounting in intensity with Simon Rattle's similarly inspired treatment of *The Great Gate of Kiev*.

GERALD LARNER

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LIVERPOOL GALLERY
31, Brixton St, W1, 071-483 2107.
EDWARD BURNA - Drawings of
the 1930s and 40s.
10 June - 10 July. Mon-Fri 10-6.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM: In CC 071 536 3161.
CC 24 hrs (no bag fee).
071 867 0444. W12.

THE KIROV BALLET

Romanov & Joffe. Royal Ballet
La Bayadere / Sleeping Beauty
La Corneille / Galle Programme
Last 2 parts Thurs & Thurs 7.30pm
071 499 5772. W12.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

100/101, St. James's St. 071 536 3161.
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THE IMPORTANCE

OF BEING EARNEST
BY OSCAR WILDE
Dir by MICHAEL TYTHER
Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Sun 2.30pm

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Now 86, Narayan is often compared to Chekhov. Victoria Glendinning devours his stories and savours the acute simplicity of his art

India under the microscope

THE GRANDMOTHER'S TALE
By R.K. Narayan
Heinemann, £9.99

Narayan's first book was published in 1935. The world, and the India into which he was born in 1906, have changed unimaginably since then. The people he writes about — small-town teachers, printers, tradesmen, lawyers, government officials and their families — have had to adapt. The wives have more to say these days. They answer back, they have education, they walk out on their astonished husbands. But the fictional town of Malgudi, where so many of his novels and short stories have been set, has acquired an actuality as timeless and distinctive as that of Garrison, Keillor's Lake Wobegon, or Trollope's Barchester.

The grandmother cannot be specific about dates and places. There are gaps, irrelevances and unexplained motives in her story. She gets irritable when her writer-grandson, anxious to impose form on the family history, presses her for links and details: "Why do you ask me? How can I know? I can only tell you the story as I heard it." You cannot, she tells him crossly, manipulate people in real life as you do in a made-up story. The impossibility of retrieving the past is underlined

by the pilgrimage the narrator makes to the house where he was born, described in his real-life memoir *My Days*. "It was totally demolished, cleared and converted into a vacant plot on which the idea was to build an air-conditioned multi-storied hotel."

Narayan is a moralist who likes absurdity. He is frequently compared with Chekhov, and the adjective "charming" has often been used of his writing. Some of the charm, for non-Indian readers, is in the idiom. There is an exoticism about the Indian English of Narayan's people. Their speech and imagery come from another language and culture. Their vocabulary is sometimes archaic, which can make the dialogue seem to English readers either oddly witty or touchingly pedantic. Beware of the word "charming", though. He is too acute to be cute.

The second story in this volume is told from the point of view of a former government agent in Malgudi, alone in the world, sacked by an officious senior colleague, abandoned by his wife and daughters. God, he thinks, is his only friend. But as his story unfolds it becomes clear that he is mean, miserly, corrupt, avaricious and devious. He can find no fault in himself. Love is blind, and he loves only himself and his money.

fact, they want a cookery book. It becomes a bestseller. The wife gets all the credit, and the money. Now that they are rich she employs a cook, thus depriving her husband of his form of self-expression. "Salt and Sawdust" is a role-reversal story. In the standard version, the gifted wife would be sacrificing herself to the ambitions of an unremarkable husband. No one can know a writer's intention; but the effect is not anti-feminist. It seems all the funnier, sadder and more suggestive for the switch, making a general rather than a gendered point.

Sated on country pleasures

Derwent May harvests a crop of books on the countryside: from ancient Greece to poachers, walks and the Lake District

The great work *Flora Europaea* (Cambridge University Press, £200) is not written in Latin, though it almost was. The team of botanists who have compiled this authoritative account of all the European plants and flowers weighed the matter long and deep before finally settling for English. Even so, as perfect Europeans, they have provided an English-Latin vocabulary.

This revised version of volume one covers plants like buttercups and cabbages, but you would not know it unless you already knew the Latin names, since English names are scrupulously not given (and there are no pictures). All the same, it is a work of lucid scholarship, and with a magnifying glass, a ruler and a full understanding of the botanical terms, you could use the elaborate keys to identify any wild plant in Europe.

Greek Wild Flowers and Plant Lore in Ancient Greece (Herbert Press, £16.95) is an altogether more seductive book, containing over 400 brilliant colour photographs of flowers, mingled with shots of blossoming landscapes and ancient murals. Its Swiss author and photographer, Hildemar Baumgartner, not only knows the Greek flowers but has also hunted out the references to them in classical myth and literature. His view of the role of religion in ancient Greek life is rather unsophisticated; but he guides us agreeably through the discoveries of writers like Theophrastus, who described 450 plants in the 4th century BC, and the herbalist Dioscorides who resumed his work 400 years later. It is fascinating to see among the colour plates a meadow covered with fennel asphodels that must have been how Homer imagined the underworld, or a fluted column from a temple of Apollo side by side with a wild angelica stem that is almost identical in form, and must have inspired the temple architect.

more the subject of A Literary Guide to the Lake District by Grevel Lindop (Chamois & Windus £16). But this compendious work also covers cross-writers in the lowlands, like Jonathan Swift at Whitehaven, where he was surprisingly taken from Dublin by his nurse when he was a year old, because she was "under an absolute necessity of seeing one of her relations... and at the same time extremely fond of the infant". This is very much a practical guide, full of distances, directions and opening hours. However, Grevel Lindop has such a good eye for a story or ear for a remark that you can turn to practically any page and find something interesting on it.

The Gentle Art of Country Walking by John Wyatt (Century, £7.99) is also an enjoyably practical book. The author points out that nailed boots are not so heavy for walking in as you might think, because "the swing of them produces a pendulum-aided rhythm"; he suggests wearing gaiters when you are walking through heather; and he warns that the build-up of static electricity in thermal underwear can "produce startling pyrotechnics when discarded".

However, Wyatt not only knows how to walk in the countryside, but also why he walks. He loves "solitude and quietness", and one of the best walks he has had in company was with 12 deaf and dumb people — "we drew attention to occasional landscape features, to flowers and birds, to shared surprise and happiness, with eye contact and with touch. The countryside experience was all." He suggests allowing three miles an hour when you are estimating how long a walk will take, but I would say if you stop and look around you repeatedly, you had better say two miles an hour.

Finally, a glance back at a lost countryside — that of Richard Jefferies, in the 1870s, as he described it in *The Amateur Poacher* (illustrated by Barbara



Villa Lante, Bagnaia, 1892, from *Italian Gardens* by the great garden designer Charles A. Platt, whose evocative 1894 study has been reprinted, with new material, by Thames and Hudson, £20

Greg, *White Lion*, £15.95), the book that established him as a writer. What is lost from it is the people — the carters and haymakers and dairymaids, the keepers and poachers, the rabbit-contractor who would buy up all the rabbits shot or ferreted in the woods, the homeless "moocher" who lived by selling turnip-tops and watercress, violets

and blackberries, but was "not a tramp, for he never enters the casual wards and never begs". You do not meet many of those people in the countryside nowadays, and Jefferies's account of them brings them back to life vividly. He also writes beautifully about trees and birds — a yellowhammer hanging on an ear of corn

on a windy gateway, the oaks standing out in November as their dead leaves are "illuminated by the autumn beams". Fortunately, these are scenes that can still evoke the pleasure of recognition.

Derwent May's *The New Times Nature Diary* has just been published by Robson Books at £10.95.

THE SECRET HISTORY
By Donna Tartt
Penguin, £5.99

AN elite group of classics students at an east coast American college pursue the ultimate in sensation and experience, a quest that leads to bacchanalian excess and coldly planned murder. Donna Tartt combines superb erudition with a thriller writer's gift for suspense in a beautifully written first novel. Echoes of Dostoevsky reverberate throughout this powerful study of guilt. It is written with an uncanny knowledge and worldliness that is far from commensurate with the author's age. What will she be producing by the time she is 40?

SOMEBODY IN BOOTS
By Nelson Algren
Flamingo, £5.99

ALGREIN's own verdict on this his first book accurately identifies its strengths and weaknesses: "an uneven novel written by an uneven man in the most uneven of American times". *Somebody in Boots* follows Cass McKay, an illiterate youngster from the American south-west, on his hobo wanderings to New Orleans and Chicago in the 1930s. His failings of tone are very much those of its time: brutal fact laced with romantic nihilism, but without the tinge of sentimental optimism. Algren was far less prone to quick fixes than most of the left-wing American writers. He dramatises the social unevenness of the Depression and the Dustbowl with great vividness and without intrusive commentary.

THE HEALING
By David Park
Phoenix, £4.99

Winner of the Authors' Club First Novel Award for this book, David Park has established himself as one of the subtlest Northern Irish writers. So traumatised that he becomes mute on witnessing his soldier father's sectarian murder, Samuel and his mother move from their farm to Belfast, where he is befriended by Mr Ellison. The old man keeps ledgers full of cuttings on victims of terrorism and sees Samuel as a saviour,

through whom God will work to end the troubles. If Ellison's hopes are vested in Samuel, they are ultimately destroyed by his own son Billy. His ledgers become a mockery and his hopes for deliverance are damned. But Samuel is healing in the refuge of his silence and his mother's decision to return to the country is less an admission of defeat than a new beginning.

DEAFNESS: An Autobiography
By David Wright
Mandarin, £5.99

SCARLET Fever left the poet David Wright entirely deaf when he was seven. He was luckier than most — he was brought from Johannesburg to England to be educated at the only secondary school for the deaf that existed in 1934, and from it he went to Oxford. In his modest, humorous and entirely unsympathetic account of this experience he manages to convey the quality of deafness, and of what he calls "eye music" — the subtle connections the brain and eye make when there is no hearing to intervene. The book is a powerful argument for integration from an outsider who refused to stay outside.

BENEVOLENCE AND BETRAYAL
Five Italian Jewish Families
under Fascism

By Alexander Stille
Vintage, £6.99

IN THE early 1930s Mussolini was regularly attacked by Nazi racial theorists for practising "kosher fascism": anti-Semitism was not central to Italian culture and Italy originally welcomed German Jewish refugees. Until recently the fate of Jews in fascist Italy has remained little known. Stille, whose father abandoned the Russian Jewish name Kamenetzki in favour of the German word for silence, redresses the balance. In a cool narrative of the lives of five very different families he traces the tragic slide from tolerant accommodation (during which many Jews were card-carrying fascists) to the final betrayal.

Contributors: Robin Lodge, Brian Morton, Katherine Bergen, Hazel Leslie

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Hostages of a contingent fate

Human lives, like works of fiction, are a mixture of chance and determinism, and it is with the interrelatedness of these two elements that Penelope Lively's novel is concerned. The book opens with a small boy playing (like Isaac Newton) on the seashore, and discovering as he does exactly what it is he wants to do with his life. The story moves forward several decades to the point at which this character, Howard Beamsish, is established in his chosen profession as a paleontologist, specialising in the earliest lifeforms: microscopic creatures which, now extinct, suggest ways in which the world might have developed, but did not.

This idea of life — and of history — as a whole range of possible alternatives, of which only one is ever selected, runs throughout the novel. Its opening chapter, chronicling the apparently random events which determine Howard's decision to study paleontology, is followed by the first of a series of ingenious digressions on history, featuring a fictional country, Callimbria, presided over by the equally fictional character of Cleopatra's sister, Berenice. Detailed accounts of the climate, geography, ethnography and culture of this imaginary civilisation are supplied, not only by the author herself, but by some of Callimbria's distinguished visitors — who seem, over the centuries, to have included Herodotus, Plutarch, Napoleon and Flaubert.

Returning — with some reluctance, one feels — to the 20th century, Lively introduces the second of her main characters, Lucy Faulkner, an enterprising young woman from a poor working-class background. The same mixture of randomness and delib-

Christina Koning

CLEOPATRA'S SISTER
By Penelope Lively
Viking, £14.99
REMEMBERING BABYLON
By David Malouf
Chamois & Windus, £14.99



Penelope Lively: events take a really nasty turn

eration which has governed Howard's scientific career has resulted in Lucy becoming a journalist, and, indeed, it will come as no surprise to the reader to learn that a similar conjunction of factors determines the eventual meeting between these two people (both fortuitously single), on an airline flight to Nairobi.

It is at this point that the narrative, which up to now has been somewhat uneventful, suddenly changes gear. For the journey on which Howard and Lucy first encounter one another is interrupted when their plane is forced to land in unfamiliar territory. The passengers find themselves caught up in a terrorist coup and, within hours, it emerges that they are the hostages of the new regime, whose centre of operations is the capital city of the obscure middle eastern country of Callimbria.

Al this is established with great economy, Lively is good on the way people (particularly the British) behave under pressure, and the way in which intolerable situations can be accepted, and even turned to advantage, by those forced to undergo them. And yet, despite the skill with which these nightmarish circumstances are evoked — the descriptions of unsavoury detention camps and sullen guards, of cap-

northern Australia during the 1850s, in an isolated community of Scottish immigrant farmers, whose daily struggle for existence is disrupted, one day, by the arrival in their midst of a stranger. This is Gemmy Fairley, a wail from the backstreets of London, who has been conscripted as a cabin boy, is shipwrecked and cast up on the shore of Australia, where he is rescued by a tribe of aborigines. He lives with them for 16 years, until a freakish desire to rejoin his "own" people impels him to leave. Predictably enough, his own people reject him, and, after a series of misadventures, he disappears, surviving only as a memory — a symbol of "otherness" — for those he has encountered.

The Australian landscape obviously lends itself to myth-making, and writers from Patrick White onwards have attempted to invigorate western archetypes of fall and redemption, by giving them an Australian setting. Malouf's book — despite the fact that it was inspired by an actual historical incident — belongs to this category. Gemmy, (like Voss, in White's eponymous novel) is a Christ-like figure, an outcast both from white society and the black community which has sheltered him, but to which he can never belong. Even his (supposed) death and "burial", according to aboriginal custom, in a tree, has sacrificial overtones.

Whether Malouf's slender narrative can support this weight of mythological significance is debatable. But the success or failure of the novel's symbolic framework matters less than the quality of its writing — which is, as one would expect from Malouf, consistently high.

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EDUCATION

The education secretary is emphasising vocabulary. Randolph Quirk could not agree more

Cultivate your lexicon, if you know what I mean

John Patten has told his curriculum designers that "a greater emphasis needs to be placed on the vocabulary". As well he might. The hallmark of a standard language (be it English, German, Russian, Chinese or whatever) is the enriched and extended vocabulary which enables its users to talk with precision on any subject under the sun.

During the first year or so of school, there is of course a good deal to master beside vocabulary. The sounds in "Fred grumbled" severely twist little tongues. There is the challenge of learning to read and write. As for grammar, deciding when one construction makes your point better than another ("A cricket ball bruised my face" or "What bruised my face was a cricket ball") can be tricky to master. But it is vocabulary that constitutes the real key to language. Every topic in every

shibboleth about split infinitives, trailing prepositions, *hopefully*, and *due to*. A further muddle makes Standard English solely identified with formal, official, written language.

The vast majority of Standard English words and sentences are of course neither formal nor informal, but neutral between these extremes. Virtually everything heard or read in the media, for instance, is couched in this neutral Standard English, free from constraints of class or region, and when a *tabloid* has things like "nerd" or "you ain't seen nuttin' yet", they are there in the well-justified confidence that the reader will recognise and appreciate the deviance.

But the false equation of Standard with strict formality is exploited by those seeking to marginalise Standard English as merely one variety of English among many, each as useful as the other. This is simply not so.

Standard languages have such status precisely because they have been lexically enriched and rhetorically polished so as to constitute the only form of the language in which expression can be given to any subject whatever, from Wimbledon commentary to quantum theory. Standard English is no exception, and those who praise of its being virtually a foreign language for many

Wordsworth could have written a host of yellow daffodils

children (and hence to be introduced "sensitively", almost apologetically) should reflect on the children's experience of English and indeed on some of the sentences they are already using before they start school: "My sister is looking for a flat in Huddersfield." How much of this would be grammatically or lexically different in any dialect you care to name?

But if 90 per cent of the English that children bring with them to school is already Standard English, this still leaves them with a good deal yet to learn. And this will be overwhelmingly words and meanings. By the time they leave school they will need to be giving accurate lexical expression to thirty or forty thousand meanings if they are to have properly understood all the subjects they have been taught and if they have also learnt how most effectively to participate in everyday life.

Why that is so is debatable, but part of the hostility seems to lie in apparently wilful misconceptions that make it easier to keep the classroom available for class war. There is the myth, for example, that Standard English entails a particular accent — "talking posh". It does not. Only a trifling minority of Standard English speakers have any such accent and Standard English is spoken equally well by Bill Clinton, Paul Keating, Virginia Bottomley, and John Smith — not to mention Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk.

Even more damaging are the misconceptions that surround equating Standard English with trivial

education puts it "pour les élèves dont la pratique, familiale ou sociale, est éloignée de celle de l'école". But carefully structured teaching is necessary as well.

Without undue parade of technicalities like hyponymy, antonymy, and other terms of art within lexicology (a field well cultivated from Calais to Vladivostok but sadly neglected in the UK), teachers can make children realise very early on that they will be learning new words and meanings right throughout their lives. And this learning is easier if they become conscious of the universal mental constructs and cognitive processes on which lexical deployment is based.

For example, words of similar meanings reveal key distinctions: funny, witty, humorous, amuse, entertaining, person, minister, priest. On the other hand, some meanings depend on what is excluded in opposition: deep and shallow rivers; deep and shallow people; profound and shallow remarks.

Spotting words that belong with others as members of a set lies at the



Quirk: it was a good idea to tell the NCC to focus on vocabulary. But why did it need to be told?

root of classification, so inclusively items like fruit and the things they include (raspberries, apples, grapes) need intelligent attention. What are the implications of saying you are going to buy "potatoes and vegetables"?

Some words are collectives (crowd, flock, herd), some are abstract ("The installation took her an hour") which can also be concrete ("The installation is now working well"). Absolute versus relative meanings are important to recognise: contrast a red carpet, a red flower with a tall child, a tall building. Again, while most words are neutral and just "denote", others carry an emotive tinge (for example, *embrace* beside *cuddle*, or *cheer* beside *munch*, relative formality (*staff* beside *personnel*) or informality (*man* beside *chap*).

There is the central importance of metaphor ("The engine is running"). "The idea dawned". There are colloquialisms to respect (like *elderly lady*) and clichés to avoid (like the plague (such as *avoid like the plague*)). Children enjoy onomatopoeia of course (splash, buzz) but they also

enjoy word-formation (help, unhelpful, helplessness). They are keen on practising inference skills: using the context to make an intelligent guess at a meaning, then using a dictionary to check success. But they need to be adept at paraphrasing skills as well: perhaps combining lexical with grammatical switches, as between "Ms Jones taught me square roots" and "I learned square roots from Ms Jones".

Meanwhile, there is a steady growth in a sense of appropriateness — not least in relation to euphemism: "her death" beside "her passing"; "He's ugly, stupid and bald" beside "He's cosmetically other, cerebrally different, and follicularly challenged". Apart from anything else, indeed, PC activities are on Mr Patten's side in wanting us all to take a keener interest in vocabulary.

And until we do, we will neither start to raise our educational performance nor even start to comprehend what Standard English is all about.

● Sir Randolph Quirk is a Wolfson Trustee and the author, with Gabriele Steen, of *English in Use* (Longman, 1990).

Disasters children can accept

Schools and parents need to help youngsters to cope with trauma

Accidents involving children seize the nation's attention. The deaths of 116 pupils and 28 adults when a coal waste tip engulfed the primary school at Aberfan remains seared in Welsh memories 26 years later.

The drowning of four teenage canoeists in the sea off Dorset in March triggered an anxious debate about the safety of school trips. But what happens to the surviving children once the media has departed and life is supposed to have returned to normal?

A new study published by the Gulbenkian Foundation,

Wise Before the Event, details the variety of traumas that can grip schoolchildren in the aftermath of disaster and suggests ways that schools might lessen their impact. After examining clinical case histories, it rejects as myth the widely held belief that children shrug off the psychological effects faster than adults. Instead, it says, children's emotions frequently remain bottled up, hindering concentration and academic performance, only to flare unexpectedly when overcome.

The report highlights the example of Bill, aged eight, who escaped when the *Herald of Free Enterprise* capsized off Zeebrugge. He was separated from his parents when the rescue helicopters arrived and the family was not reunited for some hours.

Bill returned to school three days later because his mother could not cope with his constant questioning and distress. He had nightmares about the boat going over and regularly slept in his parents' bed. But he learnt quickly not to discuss his emotional reactions for fear of upsetting adults.

Interviewed alone three months later, he confided: "Sometimes when I am in my classroom, and I am standing over my desk, I think the room is going to go over. I often dream the world is going over on its side, all the people will go in the air, and will get separated."

Although neither Bill's parents nor his teachers had reported any signs of significant disturbance, he was diag-

nosed as suffering from post traumatic stress disorder. At a counselling group, he admitted he was being taunted at school. "I wish you'd died on the ferry," one child had said.

The need for adults to allow children to talk through their experiences rather than hope they are too young to appreciate fully what happened to them is vital, says the report. It cites one understanding teacher who allowed a six-year-old to draw pictures of "the bad ferry" and talk about the *Herald* disaster often in class. But then another teacher took over the class and forbade him from discussing it again. That

night the boy began having nightmares and a few months later tried to kill himself by poking a metal rod into an electric socket. The child explained that he wanted to die to stop the pictures of the bad ferry in his head.

One of the schools whose pupils were among the 400 children on the cruise ship *Jupiter* when it sank off Piraeus harbour in Greece five years ago brought in psychologists to meet the survivors. They helped the pupils to discuss their feelings and ensured that teachers knew that a minor and apparently unrelated incident could trigger a major reaction.

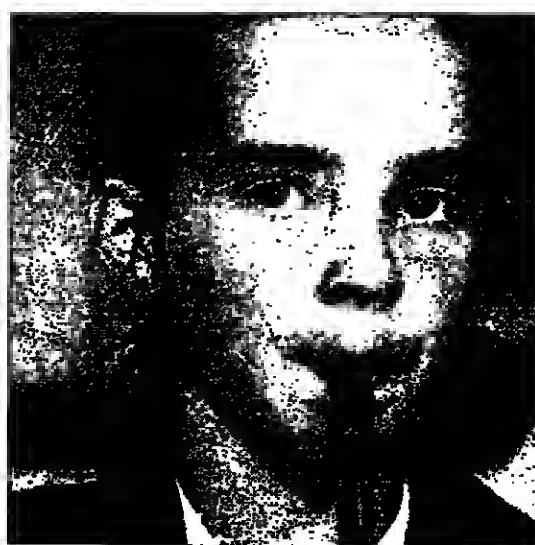
For example, when the survivors went into a geography class with a display on the subject "Great Disasters of the World" they became distressed. They were better able to cope with their reaction when the reason for it was explained.

The report says that many children will suffer intense distress for more than two years after a traumatic incident, whether a traffic accident, a fire, or death on a school journey. The symptoms are not always obvious. But the report says, by drawing up contingency plans, schools can significantly reduce the harm of a trauma that, hopefully, will never happen.

BEN PRESTON

● *Wise Before the Event*, by William Yule and Anne Gold, is published by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, £5.

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Tests: why the French got it right

Britain could take lessons from Paris in the stormy debate on standards

The French education ministry introduced national tests for nine and 11-year-olds four years ago with scarcely a murmur of complaint from teachers. It claims that 80 per cent actually approve of the tests because they help them to gauge their pupils' strengths and weaknesses.

There were some complaints that the tests were too time-consuming — particularly the coded marking intended to eliminate ranking — but this was nothing like the fury national testing has aroused in England and the ministry was able to follow up with a second round of tests in September 1992, this time for 16-year-olds.

If Britain's education department had followed the French example, would it have avoided May's humiliating boycott by enraged teachers?

The motives behind national testing are much the same in both countries — continual debate on standards, a desire for greater accountability, together with the sneaking suspicion that teachers are neglecting the basics. So why have French teachers, who are among the most powerful of lobbyists when they dislike a reform,

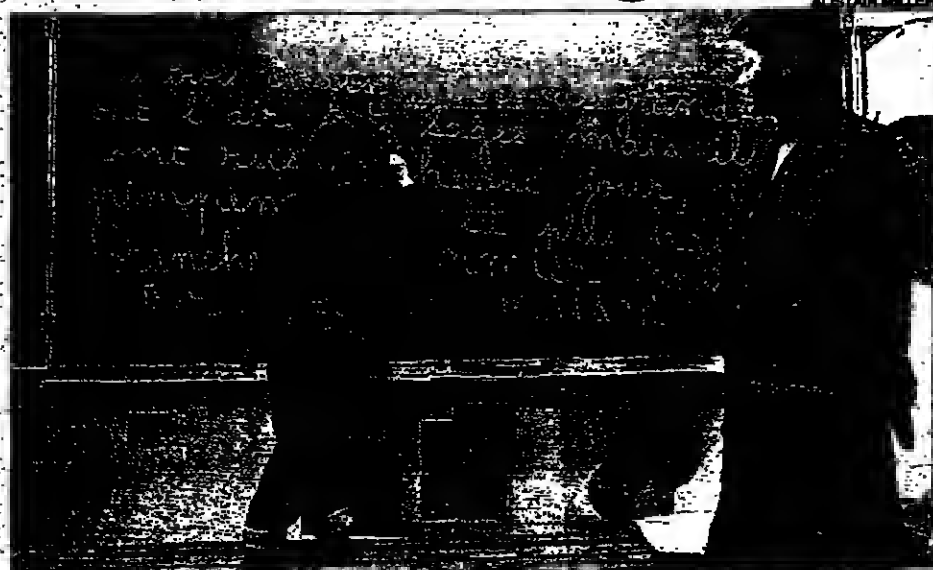
accepted the tests so easily?

One obvious explanation is that the ministry dropped all hint of league tables at the first sign of protest. The last thing it wanted was what officials called "a school hit parade" which would enable parents to choose the most successful and encourage competition.

The results for individual schools are not published, nor those for education authorities and results are no longer collated nationally by the ministry, which analyses a sample only.

In addition, the ministry made it clear from the start that the tests are not intended to classify children according to ability. Yves Guérin, who was primary schools adviser to Lionel Jospin, then education minister, was adamant: "Parents will be told what part of the test their children found difficult but no actual marks will be given to ensure that weak children will not be singled out in class."

The timing of the tests is also an important psychological factor. French pupils take them at the very beginning of the school year — in primary schools, the first year in second-year and now again in the fifth



Meeting standards: seven-year-olds doing work leading to the first tests at age nine

year. This means teachers can comfortably blame predecessors for their new pupils' shortcomings and set about remedying them.

The tests themselves are less complicated than the British ones and require no preparation. Those for nine and 11-year-olds consist of four 20-minute tests in mathematics and French only, spread over two to four days.

The new ones, for 16-year-olds, do not try, as in Britain, to examine the whole curriculum but are restricted to four

subjects. Pupils sit one-and-a-half-hour exams in French, mathematics, history and geography, and either English or German. (Technical secondary schools have a slighty different combination.)

Ministerial surveys show that 80 per cent of teachers welcome the tests and most of their objections concern the complicated coding of results. It modified the first tests taking these and other criticisms into account and promises to do so again in preparing next year's round.

The tests for 16-year-olds should help teachers to stream pupils for the new remedial classes (misleadingly called *modules*), currently being introduced into *lycées* to give extra help where needed to pupils in the crucial three-year run up to the school-leaving *baccalauréat*. Teachers again rightly complain that they are not trained to do this.

French 16-year-olds have no equivalent to GCSEs to monitor progress. They all sit the old *brevet* at the end of their third year in secondary (age 13

MARY FOLLAIN

[illegible]

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PAPER PRINT ADVICE

Weak ho

Bailey
rallies
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Weak housing market hits MFI

MFI Furniture, Britain's biggest furniture maker and retailer, which is headed by Derek Hunt, is expected to report a sharp drop in full-year profits today, almost a year after it was floated on the stock market.

Nick Bubb, at Morgan Stanley, has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £42.5 million, compared with a pro-forma £66 million. Market forecasts range from £38 million to £43 million. Earnings are expected to be 4.8p (7.4p) a share, with a net dividend of 3.75p predicted. Although MFI's sales stabilised after Black Wednesday, the group did not see any real evidence of an upturn in its financial year, as the continued depressed state of the housing market took its toll. Second-half sales are expected to be down about 7 per cent.

The main issue is what MFI says about current trading and recovery prospects. In view of previous false dawns, the MFI management is likely to shy away from much comment on current trading, although many analysts remain gloomy on the outlook.

TODAY

John Menzies, the newsagent and wholesaler, is expected to report a solid 14 per cent advance in final pre-tax profits to £23 million, according to NatWest Securities. A total dividend of 11p (10p) is predicted. The Early Learning Centres in the UK should have been the star performer, with sales thought to have jumped between 10 and 15 per cent during the year.

Martin Evans, at Hoare Govett, expects Ellis & Everard, the chemicals distributor, to report a slip in final pre-tax profits to £12 million (£12.6 million), reflecting lower demand as a result of worldwide economic decline. Market forecasts range

from £12 million to £12.5 million. Hoare expects earnings to dip to 10.2p (11.5p) a share, although a dividend of 7.15p (7.05p) is predicted.

Kleinwort Benson expects Tomkins, the industrial conglomerate that last year won control of Rank's Hovis McDougall, to turn in final pre-tax profits of £170 million (£132.1 million). Market forecasts range from £168 million to £175 million. Earnings are predicted to climb to 13.2p (12.7p) a share, with a dividend of 6.35p (5.23p) anticipated.

Interim: AG Barr, Low & Bonar, Merchants Trust (G1), Finsis Aiken Ham International, Border Television, Deane Holdings, Dalepak Foods, Ellis & Everard, Ensor Holdings, MFI Furniture Group, John Menzies, Optimate Corporation, Relect Shop, Tomkins. Economic statistics: Producer price index numbers (June - provisional).

TOMORROW

A combination of strong organic growth and swift integration of acquisitions should help Cray Electronics lift full-year profits to £17 million (£4.8 million), according to NatWest Securities. A dividend of 1.5p (0.5p) is forecast. Interim: Blue Group, Bogod Group, Colorvision, Cray Electronics, Electron House, Helton Holdings, Jacques Vert, Real Time Control, Sedis, Triplex Lloyd, Wyke Group. Economic statistics: Index of output of production industries (May), capital issues and redemptions (June).

WEDNESDAY

Interim: BWD Securities, Leslie Wise Group, M&G Dual Trust, Cline Cornhill Trust, Finsis Adam & Harvey Group, Ambridge Brothers, Bateys, HP Bulmer Holdings, Noto Group, Pilsen Leisure, Scantonic Holdings, Stanley Leisure, Tiphook. Economic statistics: Retail prices index (June), index of production and construction for Wales (G1).

THURSDAY

Great Universal Stores, the cash-rich mail order and retailing group, is expected to

turn in full-year pre-tax profits of £475 million (£441.5 million), according to Zak Keshavjee, at Williams de Bro. Market forecasts range from £460 million to £475 million. GUS, which is thought to be sitting on a cash mountain of about £1.3 billion, should receive a boost from a better than average performance from its home shopping division, which is the largest part of the group's business.

Rank Organisation, the leisure group which has been plagued by speculation that it is on the point of selling its 49 per cent stake in Rank Xerox, is expected to report interim pre-tax profits of £93.1 million (£94 million), according to NatWest Securities. Market forecasts range from £88 million to £96 million. An unchanged interim dividend of 10.25p is predicted.

UBS expects Welsh Water to turn in final pre-tax profits of £41 million (£38.2 million). Earnings are forecast to climb to 91.9p (88.4p) a share, with the total dividend expected to rise to 23.4p (21.4p). Interim: Aberforth Smelter Companies Trust, Automated Security Holdings, City of Oxford Investment Trust (G2), Fleming Pledge Investment Trust, General Consolidated Investment Trust, Rank Organisation, Finsis Cruck Holdings, Great Universal Stores, Hampshire Industries, Jones, Stroud (Holdings), Jura Hotel Group, Morgans Investment Trust, Versen International, Welsh Water, John D. Wood. Economic statistics: Labour market statistics: unemployment and unfilled vacancies (June - provisional); average earnings index (May - provisional); employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs: industrial disputes, machine tools (May).

FRIDAY

Interim: Alexander Holdings, Grainger Investment Company, Finsis Multiscreen Electronics. Economic statistics: Usable steel production (June), public sector borrowing requirement (June).

PHILIP PANGALOS



Do-it-yourself: Derek Hunt, of MFI, where a sales upturn failed to materialise

CBI sues life assurance group for £150,000

LIFE Association of Scotland (LAS), the life assurance group rated "vulnerable" by Standard & Poor's, the ratings agency, is being sued by the CBI in a rental dispute dating back more than a year. In a writ issued against LAS in the High Court last week, the CBI alleges it is owed more than £150,000 in unpaid service charges at Centre Point, central London.

LAS has been involved on three separate occasions for dues dating back to March 1992. Last November, the CBI invoiced LAS for £73,632 in arrears and tax for the period from March to September 1992. Further invoices were submitted in March and June this year. LAS was not prepared to comment.

Trade talks resume

THE long-stalled Gatt talks re-open in Geneva today, amid hopes that the tariff-cutting deal struck by the four leading industrial powers last week will provide enough momentum to achieve early progress on a broader front. Leaders of the G7 industrial countries declared in their final communiqué from the Tokyo summit that a successful conclusion by the end of this year to the Uruguay Round negotiations on far freer world trade to be the "highest priority".

USAir drop knocks BA

A SHARP drop in the share price of USAir has left British Airways facing a near £76 million (\$112 million) paper loss on its 24.6 per cent stake in the American carrier. The price was under pressure again on Friday, after USAir reported weaker load factors for last month, the day after cutting fares 20 per cent. BA has invested a total of \$386.62 million for USAir convertible preference shares, 15.4 million at a conversion price of \$19.50 and 3.27 million at \$26.40.

Property perks up

THE July survey of fund managers, conducted by Gallup for Smith New Court, shows revived interest in UK, continental European and, especially, Japanese equities. The survey, involving 96 institutions handling funds totalling £686 billion, shows that UK property has become steadily more popular. About 23 per cent of the respondents said they planned to increase their UK property holdings, against 22 per cent last month, 12 per cent in May and zero in February.

Downward drift of long yields seems likely to continue

Long gilt yields have fallen by 80 basis points since the start of the year, in the face of the biggest supply onslaught the market has ever seen.

In the first quarter of this financial year alone, the government has raised £21 billion in gilts towards a total funding need in 1992-4 of about £45 billion. The closely watched spread relative to German bunds has fallen from 125-150 basis points at the start of this year to about 100 basis points, and looks set to fall further.

We expect long yields to trough at about 7 1/2 per cent, with ten-year gilts at about 7 per cent, fuelled in part by a further fall in interest rates to 5 per cent. The main reason for continued optimism about yields across the spectrum of the gilt curve is that the inflation and credit environment will be less troublesome as the recovery matures than traditional, short-term business cycle analysis would suggest.

Moreover, we expect some rebalancing in economic policy in the Budget in favour of a tighter fiscal stance, monetary policy mix since, as the OECD has warned, up to half the PSBR may have become structural, requiring further overt restraint.

The UK is not alone in confronting what looks like a very different economic "cycle". But short-term analysis misses completely the impact of not only extensive changes in consumer psychology, credit behaviour and global com-

petitive conditions but important shifts in the regional, occupational and sex composition of the labour force and unemployment. These point to more moderate price and wage behaviour.

The absence of credit inflation removes both a threat of sustainably higher price inflation and a reason not to cut base rates. M4 lending is up less than 2.5 per cent over a year ago; a modest upturn in consumer credit was accompanied, in May, by a return to net repayment of credit card borrowing; and building societies' inflows (£2.6 billion in the first five months of this year, compared with £657 million in the comparable period last year) are more impressive than their mortgage commitments.

These data can be cited as pointers to a change in credit psychology that is hardly surprising given the high levels of debt still outstanding, recent experiences in the housing market and continued fear of unemployment. The change in the labour market is no less significant. With private sector pay settlements showing signs of bottoming out at about 2 1/2 per cent, it is tempting to conclude that the UK's traditional weakness in succumbing to higher wage inflation will reassess itself now that unemployment appears to have peaked.

However, the fact that both the regional and occupational distribution of unemployment

is more balanced than in the early 1980s suggests the pool of spare and employable labour will provide a more effective curb over wage claims than in the 1980s, when heavy unemployment in traditional industries and among blue-collar workers in the regions contrasted with the 4 per cent unemployment trough in the South and South East.

Together with a further fall in union membership and the rising importance of women in the labour force, these changes argue against the knee-jerk assumption that the decline in wage inflation will be reversed rapidly as modest economic recovery proceeds.

A more benign inflation outlook will allow gilt yields to fall further despite the PSBR. The notion that a £50 billion PSBR would necessarily push yields higher has been quashed in the past three months, although an absence of more attractive investment opportunities - domestically and - strong overseas interest have helped enormously. Funding a smaller deficit in 1994-5 could prove much harder against a stronger economic backdrop, particularly if foreign sponsorship of the PSBR dries up and/or non-residents cash in their "sterling chips". However, even though the global bond bull market will suffer reversals, we expect long yields to continue to drift down.

KIT JUCKES AND GEORGE MAGNUS SG Warburg Securities

"THE CHANGES IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE WORLD HAVE WIDENED THE CORPORATION'S HORIZONS AND OFFER THE PROSPECT OF A CHALLENGING AND DYNAMIC PERIOD OF RENEWED GROWTH."

Points from the Chairman's Statement by Julian Ogilvie Thompson.

■ Expansion and diversification maximise profit potential in good times and strengthen our resistance to adversity.

■ The Corporation is re-establishing its links with African countries. It is also extending its international links, notably through Anglo American Corporation of South America which now has assets of more than US\$1 billion. It is now involved in 4 major copper projects in Chile and Peru. Collahuasi, one of the most important in the world, has a potential output of over 300,000 tons of copper a year.

■ With the Zebra project we are developing, in partnership with AEG and Daimler Benz, an environmentally clean, high energy battery to power passenger vehicles in polluted inner city areas. A Mercedes equipped with a Zebra battery has covered more than 45,000 maintenance-free kilometres and other major car manufacturers have requested Zebras for their own vehicle test programmes. A development facility in Europe will be commissioned in September. The project demonstrates that industrial lead times can be as long as in mining and as dependent on a deep purse and steady vision.

■ Our R764 million investment in Del Monte Royal Holdings extends our interests in the value added food business and will help to counter the cyclical nature of commodities. The new group, with the prestigious Del Monte brand name, is well placed to build on an already strong market position internationally and, in so doing, help expand the deciduous fruit industry in South Africa.

■ Our international projects do not prejudice our investment programme in

South Africa. Namakwa Sands, at a cost of R1 billion, combines our experience of large mining and industrial projects with important new technologies. Namakwa Sands is strongly export oriented and beneficiation will add considerably both to the value of the raw material and to South Africa's foreign exchange earnings. Reserves are more than 500 million tons and the life of the project is expected to exceed 35 years.

■ The Moab gold mine, of great significance to our position as the principal world producer, is being developed at a cost of R1.7 billion and reaffirms our confidence in the long term future of gold. Over its 25-year lifespan Moab will yield up to 13 tons of gold a year.

■ The Columbus stainless steel joint venture at full capacity will produce 500,000 tons a year, making it the world's third largest producer of stainless steel. Columbus typifies the kind of project essential to South Africa's future growth. In turning basic commodities into highly sophisticated alloy steels for overseas markets it adds significantly to the value of South Africa's resource endowment and earns critically needed foreign exchange.

■ The capital cost of these three South African projects, all geared to export, is R5.5 billion, demonstrating once again our long term commitment to South Africa and confidence in its future.

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA



VISION BEYOND BORDERS

FOR A COPY OF THE FULL CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT, WRITE TO ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LONDON OFFICE, 19 CHARTERHOUSE ST, LONDON EC1N 6QR. Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa, Registration No. 01 05 309 06

Answers from page 36

DERTRUM

(b) The extremity of the upper bill of a bird when in any way distinguished from the rest of the beak, from the Greek *dertron* beak. "Various parts of the rostrum have received special names: the culmen, the dorsal ridge of the upper bill apex or tip, dertrum, in which it often terminates."

KEURBOOM

(a) A small South African tree of the genus *Virgilia* (*Virgilia orboides* or *Virgilia dharivata*) of the family Leguminosae, having pinnate leaves and racemes of white, pink, mauve, or red, scented flowers, from the Afrikaans *keurboom* = boom tree. "The Amasquas Tree. This tree the Cape Europeans call *keurboom*. It grows so quick that in two years time it becomes, from a small plant, a tree of eight or nine foot in height."

TAMASHEK

(b) The Berber language spoken by the Tuaregs, from the Berber word: "The principal dialects of Berber are the Kabyle, the Shilha, and the Turek or Tamashak; corresponding nearly to the ancient Numidian, Mauretanian and Gætulian respectively."

PODERE

(c) A farm or estate in Italian. D. H. Lawrence, *Son*: "Yet she missed him when he did not come to work on the podere."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Qxc2 2.Rxc2+ 3.Qxc2 Rb2 winning.

CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar

1.4782 (-0.0313)

German mark

2.5465 (-0.0113)

Exchange index

80.6 (-0.5)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

FT 30 share

2229.3 (-8.7)

FT-SE 100

2843.2 (-14.5)

New York Dow Jones

3521.06 (+37.09)

Tokyo Nikkei Avge

19877.39 (+255.93)

Young guns spend a few dollars more to win corporate shoot-out

Victoria McKee says
big spending on
entertainment puts
your name where it
matters in the dealing
room after the hoedown

The chairman sported an outsize black stetson but laughed off suggestions that only a "cowboy" outfit would hold a Wild West party for 1,000 in the middle of St James's Square in London — complete with motorised bucking bronco, frontier-style saloon and choreographed bar-room brawl.

His guests, mainly City bankers, were full of praise for the party whose flamboyant style, they claimed, matched the recessionary cheek of their host, InterCapital, the money broker, a company only seven years old but already, according to its prospectus, "rated in all surveys as the leading, or one of the leading, houses".

Even corporate entertaining staged in what looks like the "last chance saloon", can, it seems, help companies strike pay-dirt in an increasingly competitive market. Mary Spillane, head of CMB Image Consultants' European empire — "and a leader of the American, British and Swiss banking scene, doing my bit as the wife of a banker," has been, increasingly, called upon to coach companies in the new style of corporate entertaining, and how to get the best from it.

"The higher up you go, particularly in banking circles, the more contrived the event has to be," she said. "American and Swiss banks are best at showing they're successful and working the crowd at big events, with great displays at Wimbledon and Ascot. But the British bankers generally prefer to get to know a few clients at a time. Racing events are wonderful because they force people to get up and move around, and you can grab people you don't know, share your race card and score points that way."

Every company should evolve an entertaining style that suits its operating style, she feels. But whatever style is adopted, the "deal", she advises, should only be discussed late in the day. "In the last half an hour. Only if you're a peasant do you do it earlier, but you haven't scored unless you agree to some sort of follow-up before you part company," she tells clients.

"When you're faced by a row of screens with pretty similar rates and someone's light is flashing whose party you've been to, you're more likely to give him a chance," admitted Tim Emrys-Roberts, of the Bank of Tokyo, resident in a red bandana and good-guy whites but even his City principles outside the InterCapital saloon. "Although ultimately the market will always deal at the best price."

"Parties like this, show confidence," said Drew Corbett of NatWest, "although some banks might think, 'we're paying these people too much if they can afford to throw a party like this'." Michael Spencer, InterCapital's chair-



Big dealers: the InterCapital Wild West bash was judged the best of the corporate summer parties

man, kept a poker face when questioned about the cost, but did not suggest a showdown when six-figure sums were bandied about like six-pennies. While there were fewer parties than there were in the profligate and profiteering 1980s, there is higher quality, more innovative, more "strategic" entertaining going on now, said Caroline Armstrong-Jones of Bentley's Entertainment, which has organised InterCapital's bashes since the dawn of this more cautious decade. "What parties people do give, they want to do properly, and go for really good quality," says the party organiser, who with her husband Peregrine, Lord Snowdon's half-brother, hired Boney M for the cabaret, top caterers Mustard to mastermind the barbecue and ensured the champagne, like the food and entertainment, never stopped flowing.

Counsell Alexander of Tunis, who organised the tenth anniversary party for 800 last month of Investcorp International, the international investment group, in the Pirelli Gardens and Dome of the V&A courtyard. But she adds: "Companies are looking more carefully at why they entertain, and what they will gain from it. They are no longer offering open-ended budgets but they are going for the best within their budget. Thinking things out like having a chef serve the caviar rather than having people help themselves, and ordering it on an only-pay-for-what-was-consumed basis — can cut costs without cutting corners."

Although no deduction against corporation tax is allowed for business entertaining (as it is for staff parties at up to £50 a head before guests need to

worry about being taxed as a 'perk', an Inland Revenue spokesman explains). "It should be treated as serious business," says Lucy Birch, PR manager in the corporate finance division of Barclays De Zoete Wedd. "At EZW, we take corporate entertaining seriously. Companies are very short-sighted to cut down when times are tough. We are doing more than ever and try to be more innovative. Yes, we still have boxes at Twickenham and Lords and take clients to Glynedebourne and Covent Garden, but recently we had a very successful hot air balloon race and a go-kart race and are organising another for the autumn. EZW is an integrated investment bank, very relationship-driven, so building rapport with clients or potential clients is vital. Although we can deliver the goods in terms of a business concept, we want to show we can also deliver in terms of personality. With the market so competitive, you always look for ways to make yourself stand out."

BZW's bond division and Australian stock desk threw a dinner party for 500 in the dinosaur room of the Natural History Museum in April, with Dame Edna Everage as cabaret. The museum, whose dinosaur room should shortly become an even more desirable venue after the launch party to be held there on July 15 for Jurassic Park, reported its busiest year ever in 1992. "This year, we look on target to match that," says Ian Fraser, head of functions. "People are being more careful with the peripherals — flowers

and lighting — but they're going for quality food, wine and entertainment."

The trend is confirmed by Tina Bennett, a spokeswoman for the All England Tennis Club at Wimbledon. "Companies are choosing fewer events, but the more prestigious, to bring their guests to, so Wimbledon is still high on the list, and we always have a waiting list." That's despite the fact that each of the 44 marquee costs a minimum of £14,500 — not including tickets for a minimum of three days' events, food, flowers, catering, etc. "In the 1980s, we didn't expand our corporate hospitality facilities because we didn't want to cut the number of tickets for the public, so we haven't suffered at all from the recession," Ms Bennett added.

Everyone at the InterCapital party agreed that this still-burgeoning firm gives the most memorable parties in the money business. InterCapital cleverly reinforces those memories by sending Christmas cards with pictures of the party on them, doing away with the need for more hospitality then.

Rawle Adams, of Union Bank of Switzerland — bachelorette under a fringed suede waistcoat — was one of the few who dared bite the hand that fed him. Between tables piled with hams and hamburgers, huge tubs of ice cream and slabs of pecan pie, amid the casino tables and brimning bars, he dared suggest: "I prefer 'little and often' to one big party and then nothing the rest of the year," but was shouted down by those who had availed themselves more fully of the hospitality.

The lowdown on corporate hoedowns seems to be that big spenders are no longer considered cowboys.

New watering places

IAN Lang, the Scottish secretary, may have stopped short of imposing full privatisation on the water industry north of the border, but his proposals for greater private sector investment will still provide plenty of commercial opportunities — not least for the water utility companies in England and Wales.

The three new public water authorities that Mr Lang intends to set up will be able to contract out day-to-day operational activities as well as farm out large infrastructure projects. Analysts estimate about £3 billion of contracts could be up for grabs between 1995 and 2005.

The publicly quoted water companies are likely to be major beneficiaries of the opening-up of the Scottish market and most have expressed an interest in pitching for contracts. Indeed, some of the larger companies, in particular Thames, North West and Severn

Trent, are already doing this kind of work abroad so the creation of a multibillion pound market on their doorstep will be most welcome.

But the political temperature in Scotland over the issue is higher than it was when the water companies in England and Wales were privatised. Whether political pressures will jeopardise the profitability of the contracts on offer remains to be seen, but it cannot yet be discounted. It may also hinder progress, delaying the date — currently April 1996 — when the three new authorities are expected to be up and running.

This suggests the sector's strong rise last week may be somewhat premature. In the meantime, investors can perhaps savour the irony that Scotland, although only partly privatised, will enjoy greater competition than south of the border.

Oil

NO ONE knows better than oil companies not to try to predict the price of oil. Shell, for example, runs on scenario management where corporate planners devise business strategies based on three different medium and long-term forecasts for oil.

So cast-iron predictions of the impact that renewed sales of Iraq oil might have on the crude market are to be handled with caution.

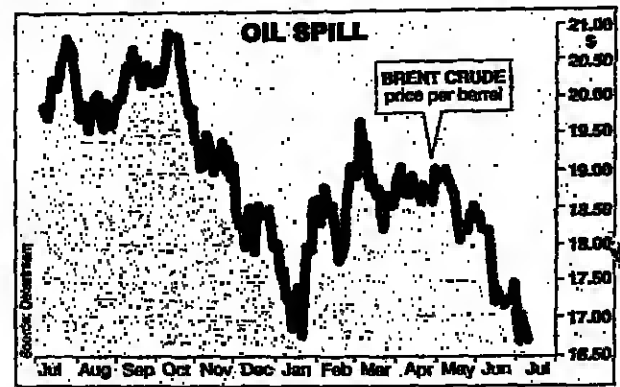
However, the prospect of \$16 billion of Iraq crude, or 600,000 barrels a day, spilling onto the market over the next six months have spooked traders over the past weeks driving prices of North Sea Brent oil down to \$16.55 a barrel, their lowest since the Gulf war.

Iraq sales would be supervised by the United Nations and the proceeds used to cover the cost of reparations to Kuwait and the cost of humanitarian aid, mainly food and medicine, to Iraq. There is no sign yet of any lifting of the trade embargo

on Iraq, which would be needed before a full resumption of Iraq's normal exports of 2.5 million barrels a day would be allowed.

All this has to be seen in the context of Opec production targets of 23.6 million barrels a day, which during June were exceeded by between 500,000 and 900,000 barrels. It should also be remembered that a fall below \$17 a barrel in January triggered Opec production cuts. The same could easily happen again, restoring prices to about \$17 a barrel.

The four large British companies exposed to oil tend to be divided by analysts into two groups: the conservative Shell and Esso, and the more adventurous BP and Lloyds. Shell and Esso have had a good run of late, as has BP which is regarded as having good long-term recovery prospects. Lloyds is the most highly geared to oil price movements, in either direction, even though analysts have doubts on how the group can fund all its main development commitments in the next few years.



Evered

EVERED Bardon's £72 million rights issue is a useful reminder that, in the longer term, assets are only worth the present value of the cash flow that can be squeezed out of them.

Bardon's current management concedes that the purchase of Civil & Marine was probably a deal too far for Evered. The company's book value is being halved from £120 million in anticipation of the sale. However, 3½ years ago, more than one company was prepared to bid nine-figure sums for Civil & Marine.

Today, Bardon is a more tightly managed concern, and under Peter Tom the business has lost 40 per cent of its staff in two years. Shareholders looking for

earnings growth need to pin their faith on a resumption in infrastructure spending in the US.

The writedown will keep Bardon in loss for this year but the company emerges from the rights issue with a net asset value per share of 65p, well above the share price of 48p, and with much better prospects.

Tiphook

TO BECOME embroiled in one lacy insider trading investigation is bad enough. To become embroiled in two, in one summer, is quite unacceptable. By all that is decent, Tiphook should be asking its advisers some pretty searching questions after the events of Friday, and possibly considering lining up new ones.

The market, excepting any

who may already have the benefit of knowledge to which they are not entitled, will have to wait until Wednesday before it knows just what effect accounting changes will have on reported figures for 1992-3. The accounts have always attracted scrutiny, not least on the matter of depreciation. But the most striking difference between British and American accounting practice, as it affects the company, is over deferred tax, on which US standards are more onerous.

Tiphook has always sheltered behind its heavy capital spending, but this is coming to an end. Restatement to US standards would have historic reported profits. The whole wretched business merely emphasises again that Tiphook shares are not for widows and orphans.

Reflect poor results in directors' pay

From Dr Valerie Goldberg Sir, Since the finalising of salaries of the chairman and chief executive of a company runs a year or so behind the results recorded in the previous year, we are always told that the huge increases awarded reflect the good results for

the preceding years. Will there now be equivalent salary reductions to reflect poor results for the early nineties, or am I being hopelessly naïve? Yours faithfully, VALERIE GOLDBERG, 6 Hollycroft Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.

Board remuneration can cause concern to shareholders

From Mr G. M. Armistage Sir, The continuing concern of shareholders of some companies with board remuneration is understandable, as is well illustrated by the recently published report of Boots, a company whose shareholders have seen a serious share price

fall this year. Although the rise in board remuneration is more constrained than in the previous year, compared with a total increase of only 14 per cent in both pre-tax and attributable profit over the past two years, total board remuneration has increased 64 per cent.

Some £900,000 of the 1992-3 board remuneration relates to bonuses, mostly arising from results being better than budget, and one can only assume budgets were agreed at unrealistically modest levels to attract such handsome rewards. To pay substantial bonuses for performance seems absurd. Directors are not paid their salaries to maintain a status quo in results. In the case of Boots, results would have been so much better if the board had not embarked on the disastrous Ward White purchase, a venture which has cost shareholders dearly.

The report again shows that directors benefited further by the exercise of a substantial volume of share options, which, by their nature are at a price below the share price at the time of exercise, is at their cost. However slight in any one year, the value of the equity must inevitably be eroded by the exercise of options.

No amount of "blessing" by compensation committees will remove understandable concern in those cases where the common sense of the figures seems so obviously wrong. Whilst it is absolutely right that people who create outstanding performance should be well rewarded, too often mundane results seem to produce outstanding board rewards, rewards which inevitably will be reflected in higher pay in other parts of the business. A further cause for concern is the extent to which outside appointments are taken by some executive directors. It might concentrate minds on the main job if fees received from outside appointments were handed over to the main employer in whose time the work is carried out. Yours faithfully, G. M. ARMISTAGE, 99 Overstrand Road, Cromer, Norfolk.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Light interlude from losses

WITH the coming of corporate capital to Lloyd's of London, it seems most propitious that the troubled insurance market should meet the Stock Exchange — if only on the polo field. The two institutions will be battling for survival this Wednesday in the annual City Challenge Cup at the Checkendon Park Polo Club on the 14,000-acre Englefield Estate. Garth Bearman, chairman of Swire Fraser insurance brokers and captain of the Lloyd's team, hopes the five-goal handicap of James Lucas, whose sister Claire Tomlinson is regarded as the best English woman polo player, will be the best insurance against an assault from the exchange team. But David Walton-Masters, a former Phillips & Drew partner and captain of the exchange team, also has the Argentinian polo star Pancho Marín-Marcos, with a six-goal handicap. Richard Beryon, whose family has owned Englefield for more than 350 years, is also playing for the exchange. Organiser Toby Greenbury, a corporate solicitor with DJ Freeman, says the match will provide a "light interlude" for Lloyd's names in the crowd.

Some friend

TWO Carr Kitar salesmen were caught out last week when they took some fund managers to Lord's for the England v Australia Test match with tickets they had bought from a friend in a rival firm. Imagine their chagrin when they arrived to find people with identical tickets in their seats. An exchange of views led to calls for the police, and soon it became clear the

Carr tickets were forged. Not the customary broker-fund manager outing, the party had to endure an hour's questioning by the law. But all ended well when alternative seats were provided. Said one Carr Kitar source: "The salesman, who must remain nameless, could not see the funny side."

Standing corrected

A BATTLE royal rages on between America's General Motors and Europe's biggest car-maker over the ethics and legality of Volkswagen's mass poaching of senior GM executives, and allegations that business secrets were involved. But José Ignacio López de Arriortua, VW's new purchasing and production czar and the Spanish Basque in the centre of the row, appears to be winning allies — despite the hail of writs, court actions and press revelations. The biggest casualty in the VW-GM war this week is *Der Spiegel*, the investigative German news magazine. Directed by the Hamburg state court, it took the exceptional step of publishing more than two full pages of corrections, drafted by Volkswagen executives, to an earlier article.



Hysterical

GREED is not enough. American executives must now be able to laugh at themselves as they pursue profits. And stand-up comic Harry Freeman is having the last laugh. Whether disguised as broker, doctor or psychologist, he earns \$3,500 a night "roasting" unsuspecting executives at agency conferences and dinners. Only last week, Dum & Bradstreet got Freeman to "roast" boss Robert Meltzer at a dinner for executives and their wives. Meltzer said: "I found my secretary had given him all sorts of information. I was shocked, but it made me seem more approachable."

Puckett's luck

AMID the blood letting at IBM, Bernard Puckett stands out as the most gifted in corporate survival. He has been elevated to chief corporate strategist. But is this not the Puckett who played a key role in IBM's corporate strategy throughout the eighties, when it spent \$42 billion and ended up with the biggest red ink in corporate memory? It is, and Annex Research, the computer industry analyst, says his appointment is neither change nor new blood.

Meanwhile, former boss John Akers is pumping some of the millions he took out as pay and severance from IBM into an airline project organised by US corporate thought guy Frank Lorenzo. While Akers has the dubious accolade of being the only IBM chairman who saw the world-class company go into the red, Lorenzo has sent his two previous airlines, Eastern and Continental, into bankruptcy.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

RONNEL INTERNATIONAL LTD. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 86 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the Creditors will be held at 15, Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AN, on 12 July 1993 at 11.30 in the afternoon for the purpose of considering the proposed appointment of a Receiver of the assets of the Company.

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BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (930238)
7.00 Breakfast News (1026270)
9.00 Defenders of the Earth (1) (s) (585454) 9.30 Now
The Life for an 11-year-old working in a County
Durham last night 11.00 years ago (1) (71725)
10.00 News (Casting), regional news and weather
(584316) 10.05 Playdays (s) (428022) 10.30
Bananaman (1) (704050)
10.35 Puddles Up. The first of a new series of the BBC's
international canoeing competition. (s) (803216)
11.00 News (Casting), regional news and weather
(803209) 11.05 The High Chaparral Western
adventure (1) (589895) Northern Ireland: Still
Standing 11.55 The History Man. Bryan McNamara
explores Orford Castle in Suffolk (1) (761306)
Northern Ireland: Our Roving Reporter
12.00 News (Casting) and weather (757070) 12.05
Redeemed. The World. The effect of the
modern world on native Alaska (1) (554567) 12.55
Regional News and weather (802229)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Edward Stourton. Weather
(20270) 1.30 Neighbours. (Casting) (s) (721374)
1.50 Eldorado. A repeat of the last episode.
(1) (48090) (249750)
2.20 Dallas (1) (Casting) (335218) 3.10 Bazaar
presented by Nerys Hughes (s) (758102) 3.40
Turnabout. A test of word power (583724)
4.10 The Adventures of Shuggy (s) (232910) 4.35
Toxic Crusaders (1) (Casting) (115690)
5.00 Newsround (10:30) 5.05 Blue Peter. A look at
the progress of Henry, the Blue Peter pup, and
training to be a guide dog for the blind. (Casting) (s)
(214830) 5.35 Neighbours (1) (Casting) (s)
(74892) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira
Saurer. (Casting) Weather (163)
6.30 Regional News. Magazines (763). Northern
Ireland: Neighbours



Behind the camera: Steven Spielberg (7.00pm)

7.00 Spielberg and the Dinosaurs. (Casting) See
Choice (1454)
7.30 Young Driver of the Year. Heat two of the on and
off-the-road competition. (Casting) (947)
8.00 So Heist. Paul A. Mendelson's comedy
starring Marnie Karlin as a ghostly Jewish mama (1).
(Casting) (s) (6742)
8.30 Waiting For God. Stephanie Cole and Graham
Crowden star in the comedy series set in a
retirement home (1). (Casting) (s) (6909)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Casting)
Regional news and weather (7473)
9.30 Puddles Up. A new series. Vivian White
investigates why Wesssex Regional Health Authority
squandered millions of NHS funds by installing a
computer system that had to be abandoned
(27729)
10.10 The Rainbow. The concluding part of Anne Devlin's
adaptation of the D.H. Lawrence novel, starring
Imogen Stubbs (1). (Casting) (730763) Northern
Ireland: The Twelfth (1) (50) The Rainbow
11.45 Come Dancing. Birmingham trip against Liverpool
in Bournemouth. (Casting) (s) (31536)
12.00am Education Special: Warrick's Children.
Educating children with special needs (1) (378096).
Northern Ireland: Come Dancing
1.05 Weather (579422). Ends at 1.10
3.30-5.50 BBC Select: Pathways to Care (5658005)

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BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert BallantyneDirectors
at Cray
could share
£35m bonus

By JON ASHWORTH

SIR Peter Michael, former chairman of Cray Electronics, stands to net more than £8 million after a three-year spell at the company, which was close to collapse in 1989.

Sir Peter, who was brought in by SG Warburg in December 1989 to spearhead Cray's revival, is set to share in a profit-related share bonus of up to £35 million.

The other recipients include Roger Holland, who last month succeeded Sir Peter as chairman and is regarded as the driving force behind the company's growth. Jeff Harrison, finance director, and Jon Richards, group managing director.

Details of the bonus, believed to be the biggest of its kind, will be announced tomorrow, when Cray unveils its financial results for the year to end-April. The four men will be entitled to share between £20 million and £35 million in shares if earnings per share exceed 7p, compared with 3.2p. Analysts are predicting trading profits of £17 million.

The three remaining directors have indicated that they will not sell their shares. Sir Peter, who has an estimated fortune of £60 million, resigned last month to pursue other interests. He has a 33 per cent stake in Classic FM, the radio station.

Tax relief on profit-related pay could top £400 million in the current financial year, compared with £50 million two years ago, according to a report by Incomes Data Services. By the end of March, there were 4,615 schemes covering 1,167,400 people.

Stock Exchange
and SIB link to
combat insiders

By NEIL BENNETT

THE Stock Exchange and the Securities and Investments Board are poised to join forces to create a combined surveillance and investigation unit to track down the growing number of insider dealers in the City.

Both organisations are in favour of setting up a surveillance body to be called the Central Enforcement Agency which would pool information from the City's main markets, including equities, traded options and futures, to counter the increasingly sophisticated techniques used by insiders.

The plans have been given new impetus in the past two weeks by growing dissatisfaction among institutions which have lost confidence in the Stock Exchange's ability to uncover insider dealers. Their protests have been stirred up by two more clear examples where someone traded on restricted information before it was released to the market.

Shares in Spring Ram, the bathroom group, slumped two weeks ago before the company announced a profit warning and shares in Tip-top, the container hire business, plunged on Friday before a similar announcement, the second time its shares have been hit by insider trading in three months.

The Stock Exchange has mounted full investigations into both these incidents, but very few of its investigations ever result in action. Fund managers feel this rise in insider dealing is damaging the reputations of themselves and the City as a whole and

■ Institutions that are dissatisfied about share movements ahead of bad news have lost confidence in the London Stock Exchange's surveillance.

costing their clients money. David Manning, director of equities at Legal & General, is one of the senior fund managers leading the calls for a new initiative against covert dealing. "One has to look to the Stock Exchange to be a more effective policeman than it is. The system has to be more self-regulatory rather than using the current legal system."

The pattern suggests only a few people are trading on restricted information, which is being intercepted before it is announced to the market. In such circumstances even a small sale can lead to a violent dip in the price of an illiquid share. This is causing particular concern among fund managers since so many small and medium-sized companies are coming to the market.

Andrew Large, SIB chairman, gave his backing for the CEA before the House of Commons Social Services select committee last week. The board has a working party looking at ways to set up the body and will report before the end of the summer. In his evidence, Mr Large said the SIB would be prepared to take charge of the new agency and the Stock Exchange is also keen for SIB control.

Initially the CEA may only carry out surveillance work on the various markets, to ensure, for example, that insid-

ers cannot manipulate the traded options or futures markets before company announcements. It could be staffed by investigators drafted in from the SE and the self-regulatory organisations, such as the Securities and Futures Authority.

But the SIB may also call for new legislation to give the CEA full investigative and enforcement powers, which would make it almost as strong as the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

The SE feels frustrated in many insider cases as it finds it impossible to gather enough solid evidence to present a case in court or convince the Department of Trade and Industry to appoint investigators. SE investigations are also hampered since it can take days to gather information from other markets to discover if they have also been manipulated.

Many of the SE's investigations reveal unregulated people outside the markets have been responsible for insider trading, and the SE cannot take action against them unless it persuades the DTI to investigate and prosecute. But the SE said it sometimes passes information about likely insiders to their employers or other regulators. Then they are likely to face an internal enquiry and often are quietly dismissed to avoid scandals.



Space and pace: Jaguar has stripped bare its main factory at Browns Lane, Coventry, to install an assembly line that will improve production 25 per cent (Kevin Eason writes). The vast assembly hall — the length of four football pitches — is today an empty shell waiting for 400 workmen to start building tracks capable of lifting output to 25 cars an hour. Workmen followed 50 yards behind the last XJ6 saloon to be built on the old assembly line on Thursday, ripping up the old track ready to install the new machinery this week. Jaguar's 2,000 production workers are on a three-week holiday while the work is carried out. The £85 million investment marks a fresh start for Jaguar which struggled for the past four years before sales jumped 46 per cent in this year's first half.

France looks to Bundesbank
as franc faces pressure

By COLIN NARBROUGH

FRANCE will be looking to the Bundesbank for support if heavy selling pressure on the franc is renewed in the foreign exchange markets today.

The Banque de France intervened to prop up the franc on Friday, the first identified support for nearly five months, as the currency fell below 3.40 to the mark. At the London close, the franc stood at 3.399, weakening to 3.402 in New York. The franc's floor within the exchange-rate mechanism is 3.433. The franc's reverse, after talk of its replacing the mark as Europe's anchor cur-

rency, has aroused fears that the foreign exchange market faces another summer of turbulence, which could threaten the other ERM currencies.

Currency analysts are divided over what triggered the franc sell-off. Some see it prompted by French companies, while others believe that short-term international speculators were behind the move.

Despite recent signs that the German authorities were unhappy about the speed of French interest rate cuts, the Bundesbank is expected to stand behind the Banque de

France in any support actions for the franc this week.

The Bundesbank's council meeting on Thursday could provide relief for the beleaguered franc by paring German interest rates again. But any cut is likely to be small.

City economists expect today's output price data to show an annual rise of 4 per cent last month, unchanged from May, confirming that manufacturers are still benefiting from low wage costs. Input prices are expected to show the annual rise stick close to 7.5 per cent.

Cliveden House gets set for stock market debut

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR



Luxury service: a footman in the dining room of Cliveden House, former home of the Astors

CLIVEDEN House, former home of the Astors and scene of some epochal encounters in the early 1960s, is coming to the stock market by way of a reverse takeover.

Cliveden, near Taplow, Bucks, is now an upmarket hotel although probably destined to be associated in the public mind with wild parties at the time of the Profumo affair.

The business is being injected into Ifco, a former insurance broker but now a cash-rich shell, whose shares have been suspended on the stock market since 1991.

The proposal will be put to shareholders on July 30. This should be a precursor to a listing of the merged company under the name

Cliveden plc. The property was recently given an open-market valuation of £14 million, a spokesman said. Cliveden shareholders will own 72 per cent of the shares in the merged company.

Jacques Delacave, the Ifco chairman, will take the chair after the deal goes through. Charles Portsmouth, his finance director, will take on a similar role for the merged group, which will use the £5.1 million cash contained within Ifco to fund expansion. That could include possible development of one wing of the hotel.

The managing director will be John Thom and the board will be completed by John Lewis, both coming from the Cliveden camp.

Chancellor faces EC scrutiny

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

KENNETH Clarke, the Chancellor, will have his plans for reducing the government's budget deficit scrutinised by fellow EC finance ministers in Brussels today.

He will be asked to defend his economic strategy and be pressed to consider tax increases as well as cuts in public spending.

The discussion of Britain's "convergence plan" is eagerly awaited by member states still

angered by the government's opt-out from the final stage of monetary union outlined in the Maastricht Treaty.

However, Mr Clarke is in a strong position, as Britain's is the only European economy expanding to any visible degree for the moment.

The convergence programme claims that about 70 per cent of Britain's £50 billion budget deficit is "cyclical" and that by 1997, the target date for

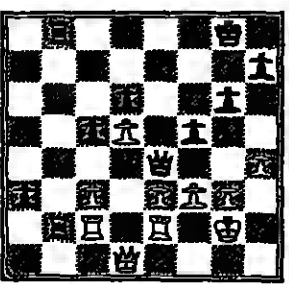
a single European currency, the PSBR will be down from 8 per cent of GDP today to 3.5 per cent. The Maastricht treaty states that the deficit/GDP ratio should be down to 3 per cent by then.

Annual inflation is poised to increase this week when the retail price index for June is announced. It is expected to increase by 0.1 or 0.2 of a percentage point from 1.3 per cent.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

During The Times World Chess Championship the City of London will be co-operating to launch a chess festival. Today's game was played in the City in a tournament from 1989. This position is a variation from the game Davis-Suba, Watson, Parley & Williams & City of London Corporation International. How can black finish things off immediately?



Championship Chess, page 7

WORD WARE

By Philip Howard

DERTRUM
a. A heavy metal element
b. Part of a book
c. A cardboard city

KEURBOOM

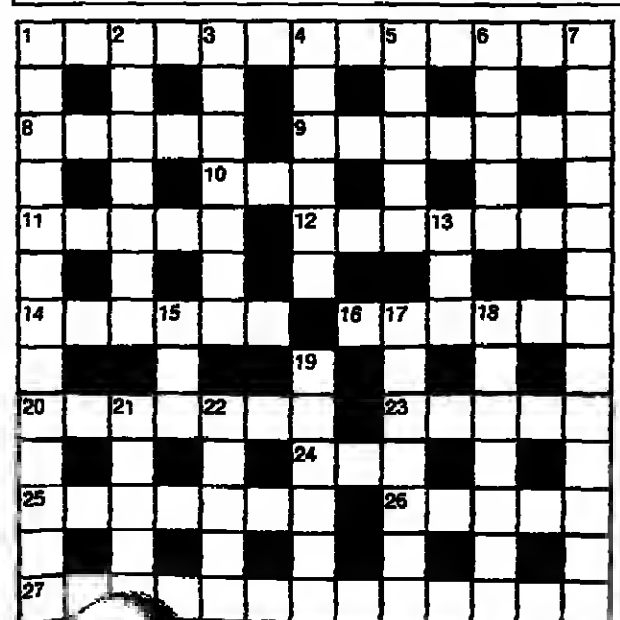
a. A flowering tree
b. A curative Spa
c. The double yard of a sailing shipTAMASHEK
a. A Saracen turban
b. The Barber language
c. Somali currency

PODERE

a. A dust storm
b. To enforce power
c. A farm or estate

Answers on page 33

CONCISE CROSS



- ACROSS
1. Supremely happy state (7,6)
 8. Sixth Zodiac sign (5)
 9. Inconsistent (7)
 10. Ultimate degree (3)
 11. Scots lord (5)
 12. Aquit (7)
 14. Bored (French) (6)
 16. Of decorated column (6)
 20. Spacecraft return (2-5)
 23. Once more (5)
 24. Religious (3)
 25. Absolute blessedness (7)
 26. Spanish man (5)
 27. Suffering-relief journey (6,2-5)
- DOWN
1. Marmalade fruit (7,6)
 2. Personal account (7)
 3. Middle of the day (7)
 4. Donkey call (6)
 5. Deserves (5)
 6. Essential (5)
 7. Atomic power (7,6)
 13. Single item (3)
 15. Vase (3)
 17. US fanlight (7)
 18. Beginner (7)
 19. Energetic type (6)
 21. Mistake (5)
 22. Guide and teach (5)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3144

ACROSS: 1 Caucasus 5 Grid 9 Trouble 10 Civer 11 Atom 12 Shellac 14 Relent 16 Pestle 19 Stuck up 21 Quid 24 Midge 25 Naivete 26 Dirk 27 Impelled

DOWN: 1 Cuz 2 U boat 3 Albumen 4 Uneasy 6 Rivulet 7 Detached 8 Acme 13 Presumed 15 Lounger 17 Esquire 18 Eponymy 20 Kite 22 Ideal 23 Send

TUC future
role under
discussionBy PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S trade union leaders will meet today in a special closed session to work out the future of the Trades Union Congress.

A confidential policy document for an all-day meeting of the TUC's governing general council does not shirk from the scale of the unions' problems, accepting "the difficulty" the TUC has been having in winning wide and active support for the aims and values of the trade union movement.

The internal union paper, drawn up by John Monks, the TUC's deputy general secretary, recognises that "based on the trends of the 1980s and early 1990s, with membership down from 12 million to 7.5 million and with the same labour market trends still very much evident and perhaps intensifying it is easy to be pessimistic about the future of trade unions."

The TUC, which acknowledges criticism that it lacks a "cutting edge", says the aim of the searching examination should be that by early next year, "we should be well on the way in the trade union movement to building a consensus to launch a new TUC with an improved quality of relationship with unions, activists, members and the public."

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